A DAY TO REMEMBER

ACCESS ALL AREAS IN POP-PUNK HEAVEN!

INSIDE A7X'S SHOP!

SLAVES "TRUMP HAS WOKEN PEOPLE UP..."

WAYNE'S WORLD
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS WITH MASTODON!

KERRANG!

The VALENTINE'S ISSUE

VOMIT! PRAWNS! CRAIG DAVID! WHEN DATES WITH ROCKSTARS GO WRONG!

10 SCORCHING POSTERS!

"I'VE MET DEATH I'VE SHAKEN ITS HAND IT'S TERRIFYING TO KNOW I'LL HAVE TO DO IT AGAIN"

THE HEARTBREAK OF FRANK IERO

BY HANNAH EWENS

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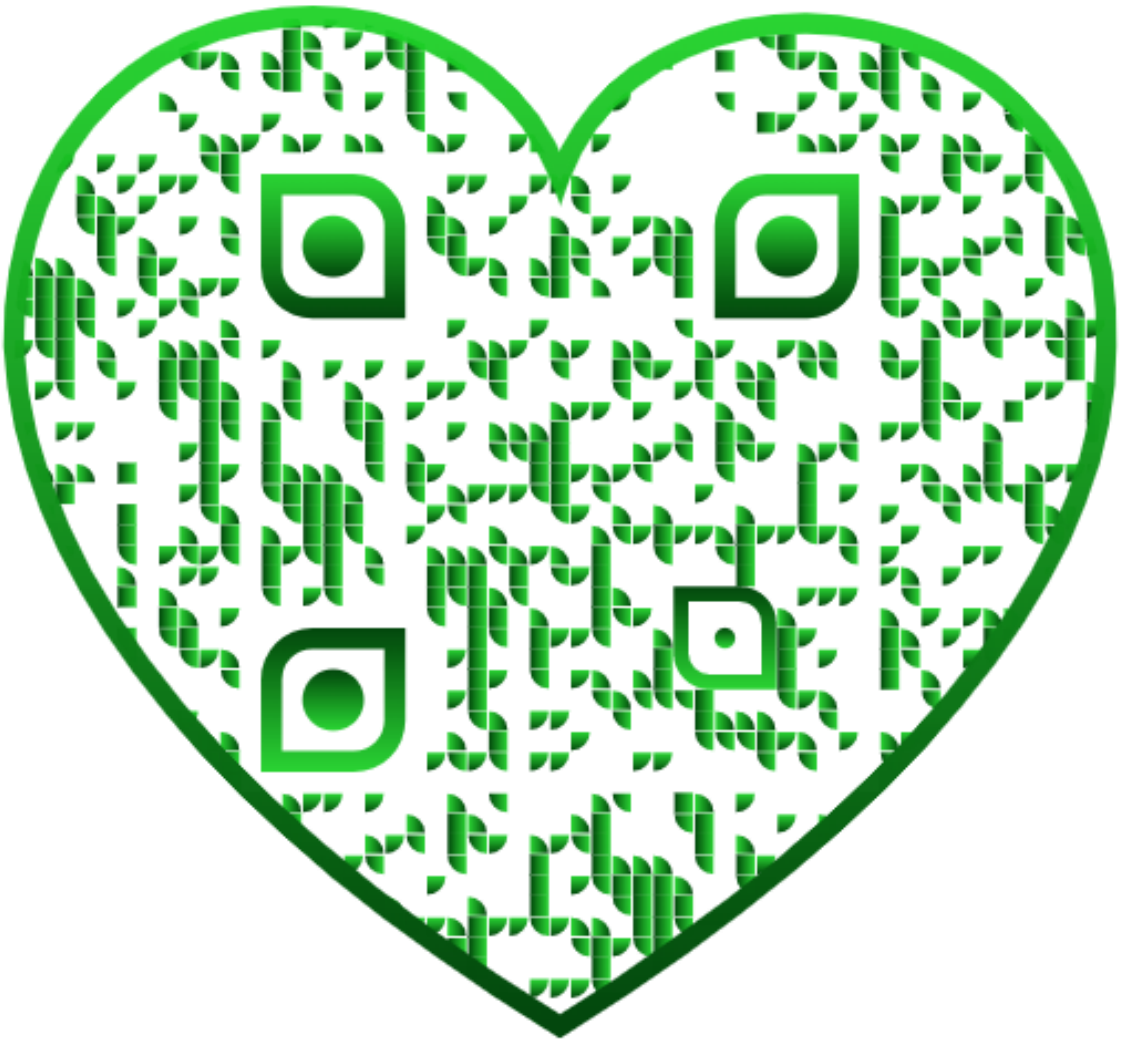

AND NOW FOR A VERY SPECIAL BROADKAST ANNOUNCEMENT...

KERRANG! RADIO

RADIO WHERE YOU WANT IT!

A NEW WAY TO ROCK YOUR WORLD HAS ARRIVED!

Good news, everyone! You can now access your favourite radio station from the comfort of your own pocket via our incredible FREE MOBILE APP – where you can listen live or on demand, watch our videos and access loads more, wherever you are! It is, quite simply, radio where you want it! Kerrang! Radio may have disappeared from DAB digital radio last year, outside of London at least, but we're still rocking your world on the awesome new app, as well as on Freeview digital TV channel 717, online at Kerrangradio.co.uk and on DAB radio in London. That aside, nothing else has changed! You still get all of the biggest stars like Biffy Clyro, 30 Seconds To Mars and You Me At Six doing special performances and generally having a good ol' larf on the airwaves on all your favourite shows! APP-y days! See what we did there?

FM
AM

THE SMALL PRINT!

Kerrang! Radio will also still be on DAB digital radio in London, but you might need to retune to find us. For more information on retuning and other ways to listen, just head to Kerrangradio.co.uk. We appreciate many of you may have questions or concerns about how you can still listen to your favourite radio station, and if you're still unsure of anything, you can always reach us by sending an email to kerrangqueries@bauermedia.co.uk.

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ISSUE 1657 FEB 11, 2017

HELLO, READERS, and welcome to this week's issue of Kerrang!. As far as magazine/artist relationships go, this magazine is pretty tight with Frank Iero. We email back and forth, we catch-up at gigs, sometimes Frank has swung by the office when he's been in the country. We're all absolute megafans, too! And so when we received word of the appalling incident that took place last October in Australia, which left Frank, his friends and bandmates seriously injured, it scared the shit out of us. We were worried about our friend, as well as one of our favourite musicians. And, as Kerrang!'s brilliant Hannah Ewens learns on p18, we were right to worry, too – those boys have crawled through Hell, they really have. Thankfully, we're pleased to say Frank and co. seem to have made it through the other side; something that is surely testament to their personal strength and bond of friendship. Anyway, enjoy the issue, you guys, and, of course, every single second of life you possibly can.

James

NEWS

ON THE COVER: **Avenged Sevenfold** become shop keepers for the day **(p4)**, while Isaac Holman from **Slaves** contemplates life as a vegetable farmer as the punk duo gear up to play 2000trees festival **(p6)**.

FEATURES

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H09909 p48
Rapper theOGM gave himself a five-finger discount at the sushi bar pre-show

THANK YOU, GEORGE!
This entire issue is dedicated to outgoing Kerrang! Deputy Editor **George Garner.** George, on behalf of your friends on the big K!, thanks for everything!

COVER PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY COVER PHOTO: CHRIS CASEY

HAIL TO THE SHOPKEEPERS

LAST MONTH, **AVENGED SEVENFOLD** OPENED VLAUDER LAUDER'S GENERAL STORE – AKA THEIR VERY OWN POP-UP SHOP! NATURALLY, WE WENT SHOPPING…

ROLL UP, ROLL UP! It's just gone 6pm on Monday, January 23, on the final evening of Avenged Sevenfold's exclusive four-day pop-up shop, and there's a never-ending queue winding through the dark, damp streets of Camden, spilling out of the Stables and onto the busy main road. Fans are happily munching on Voodoo Ray's pizza – a warming gift from the waiting band – and buzzing at the prospect of a signing with their metal heroes just minutes away.

Inside Vlauder Lauder's General Store, A7X's 4K-rated The Stage is blasting at full volume. M. Shadows, Synyster Gates, Zacky Vengeance, Johnny Christ and Brooks Wackerman emerge from a pre-shift pint to inspect everything on sale. There are unique items of merch dotted on every wall, only available in store, from sew-on tube map-style patches to engraved cricket bats. If you're on the lookout for merch that no-one else owns, you're in the right place. It's no wonder that, after two nights headlining London's O2 Arena, *this* is where Avenged Sevenfold have headed to continue their celebrations.

As the doors open and roadies usher in the endless sea of fans, selfies, smiles and signatures are exchanged, along with more Synyster Custom Schecters than you'll ever see at any guitar store.

"We went all the way back to Wales to get my guitar [for the shop signing]!" smiles one such guitar owner, Nekane from Newport [*pictured right*], clutching on to her freshly-autographed Schecter. "We had VIP passes [for the London show], but we didn't get to meet all of the band, but today was amazing! I just told them: 'Thank you for everything.'"

"They're so kind, I think the best part is that they're not jerks," gushes mega-fan Whitney from East London after her encounter with A7X. "The worst thing would be to meet your favourite band and they just don't give a crap about you. I like that Avenged Sevenfold are the only ones who have done something like this; it makes them stand out."

Well, that's not strictly true. In 2015 Enter Shikari and Fall Out Boy brought their respective pop-up shops to London. In 2016 came Panic! At The Disco. But it's fair to say that no other attempt so far has contained so much attention to detail. And as pens dry out and the store stereo switches to Queen, the members of A7X leave safe in the knowledge that they've given fans a truly special, one-off experience.

"When you're trying to redo every aspect [of the band], it becomes daunting. Just the amount of calls that you have to deal with, with not only the stage production, but the merch… it's crazy," a wide-eyed M. Shadows told Kerrang! breathlessly last month, as the band were finalising details of their Deathbat-tastic store.

Thankfully (and unsurprisingly), the band's commendable levels of preparation are all worth it; Vlauder Lauder's has been an overwhelmingly successful venture, not to mention a total thrill for fans. Can this become a permanent fixture, please?

THE BIG PICTURE

FEAST YOUR EYES ON NEWS!

IT'S A LONG WAY TO THE SHOP

(IF YOU WANNA ROCK'N'ROLL)

THE FIVE BEST THINGS EXCLUSIVELY ON SALE AT A7X'S STORE...

1 CAMDEN TOWN T-SHIRT *(£20)*
Featuring a Deathbat in a bowler hat. Because even metal band mascots can be gentlemen.

2 BLACK AND WHITE SCARF *(£15)*
Ever wanted a neck massage from a bat, but been too scared to ever go through with it? This is the next best thing, weirdo.

3 DEATHBAT/UK FLAG PIN *(£5)*
Show your patriotism and look badass at the same time. Can also double-up as painful earrings if you really hate your head.

4 CAMOUFLAGE JACKET *(£50)*
Perfect to wear to an A7X gig to sneak past people for a better view. Also if you fancy living in the woods like a hermit.

5 CRICKET BAT *(£100)*
Cricket is boring. Hitting a 6 using a Deathbat's engraved face will make it less so. Maybe.

NOW THAT'S WHAT WE CALL A DEATHBAT

Meet the awesome A7X fan Nekane -- or Kaney Bedlam as her full Avengified name should read

All that lovely merch and we've only got a fiver – what a nightmaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaare

Bet this limited-edition A7X fan set cost a fortune

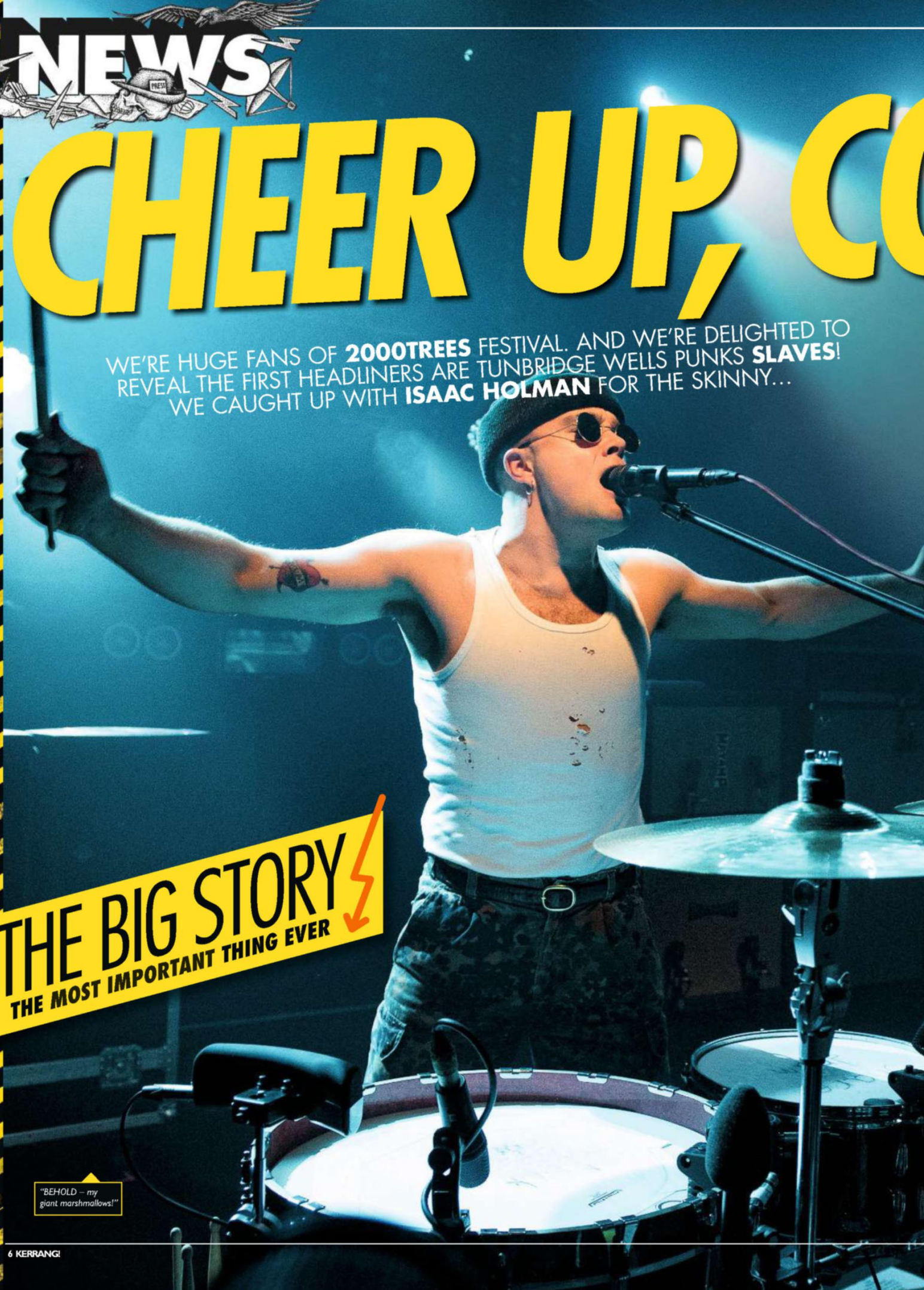
WORDS: EMILY CARTER PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES

CHEER UP, CO

WE'RE HUGE FANS OF **2000TREES** FESTIVAL. AND WE'RE DELIGHTED TO REVEAL THE FIRST HEADLINERS ARE TUNBRIDGE WELLS PUNKS **SLAVES**! WE CAUGHT UP WITH **ISAAC HOLMAN** FOR THE SKINNY...

THE BIG STORY

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING EVER



"BEHOLD – my giant marshmallows!"

OTSWOLDS!

2000TREES, the three-day rock and alternative event set in the Cotswold Hills, was one of the stand-out weekends of 2016, and if their first headliner announcement is anything to go by, the award-winning independent festival are looking set for a repeat performance. We're talking, of course, about Kent punk duo Slaves, who K! can exclusively reveal will be headlining on the Saturday. And then there's Nothing But Thieves, Pulled Apart By Horses, Muncie Girls, SHVPES, Doe, Louise Distras, Greywind, Area 11 and about a zillion more. We gave Slaves vocalist/drummer Isaac Holman a call to talk festivals, farm life, new babies and new music…

HEY, ISAAC! HOW YOU FEELING ABOUT CO-HEADLINING 2000TREES FESTIVAL?

"Yeah, honoured, well chuffed. We've played that festival a couple'a times and it's a good one. It's always a bit of a stand-out for me. It's got a wicked vibe because it's really small, and quite compact. I often find with the bigger festivals it's hard to see anyone, and you end up just traipsing around. Two or three years ago we played the main stage – and I think it was the first festival main stage we'd done, and that's why it stands out so much. It was just mind-blowing."

2000TREES TAKES PLACE ON UPCOTE FARM – HOW DO YOU THINK YOU GUYS WOULD FARE AS FARMERS?

"Er, I don't really agree with the meat and dairy industry, so I'm not sure how I'd get on. I could have the farm life, but I wouldn't be into the whole animal side of things (*laughs*). I could definitely milk a cow, but I wouldn't wanna have my cows up on those horrible machines that suck on them all day. Would I rather be a vegetable farmer? I could definitely do that – I think I'd actually quite like that life. One day I might get an allotment. My old man used to have one, and I would help out down there. I'm really up for self-sufficient living and growing your own food and eating it. I've been veggie/vegan on and off for the past couple of years. Some part of me doesn't like the label [that comes with being vegan], but I'm definitely conscious and aware."

SO WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO SINCE WE LAST SPOKE?

"We've been chilling for a little while because just before Christmas Laurie [Vincent, vocals/guitar] had his baby, so we decided to take three months off around that. I've been going a little bit stir [crazy], to be honest. I'm looking forward to getting busy again. I've been to visit the baby – he's so sweet, he's amazing."

WILL THE BABY CHANGE HOW YOU TOUR? OR EVEN JUST THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THE WORLD?

"I think it's always gonna change the way you look at the world when you bring a life into it, but I don't think it'll have an effect on the band. The baby will probably just come along on tour, and it's not gonna change the way we write. If it does it'll be for the better! It's a huge inspiration, innit."

WHAT ARE YOUR 2017 PLANS IN TERMS OF NEW MUSIC?

"We're just about to go into the studio to start writing again, so that starts next week. We've always got loads of ideas, so I'm sure there'll be some new music out soon. I haven't seen that much of Laurie, to be honest, but when we're at home Laurie's always got his guitar in his hands – well, he's got a baby in his hands most of the time now (*laughs*). But I'm always writing, we're always switched on to it, and we're definitely gonna have some music out very soon. How many song ideas do we have? I dunno, 'cause some of them are literally just a little lyric idea, but we've got loads of ideas. My drafts folder on my phone is pretty much full up. If I hear little conversations or little snippets of things, I just write it down in my phone."

AND WHAT'S INSPIRING YOU AT THE MOMENT? WE'RE GUESSING THE CURRENT STATE OF THE WORLD…

"Well, obviously everything that's going on in the world. I was at the protest in Downing Street [on Jan 30]. It was amazing and it was massive. It was inspiring in general, the unity and the solidarity of the people – it's often in these terrible times that people really come together, and I really saw that [at the demo], it was nice. I think that's a topic that will make it onto the next album, you can't really avoid it. The kind of band that we are, it's gonna come into it."

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON TRUMP AND BREXIT IN GENERAL?

"Just shit. I could go on forever, but I'm obviously not very happy. People are awake now. It really feels like people are switched on more than ever."

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ACHIEVE THIS YEAR?

"Not really, I'm just sort of going with the flow. I'd like to move out of my mum's house (*laughs*)! It's alright, but I think I'm gonna get back to the city soon. Don't get me wrong, having a nice nutritious hot meal on the table is definitely a blessing, but there's something nice about your own space, isn't there? But I haven't really got any other goals, I'm just sailing through. I just wanna stay prolific and keep making music and just keep busy."

2000TREES TAKES PLACE BETWEEN 6 – 8 JULY. SEE THE GIG GUIDE

"I COULD DEFINITELY MILK A COW…"
ISAAC HOLMAN

2000TREES – PLUS THIRTY SEVEN!

PREPARE TO BE SPOILT ROTTEN! THERE'S LOADS OF OTHER BANDS AT 2000TREES, TOO!

IT'S NOT just going to be Slaves causing chaos at Upcote Farm – Kerrang! can exclusively reveal the first load of bands who'll be joining them. Get ready for – deep breath – Nothing But Thieves, Pulled Apart By Horses, Jamie Lenman, Feed The Rhino, Dinosaur Pile-Up, Muncie Girls, Black Foxxes, Grumble Bee, SHVPES, Bad Sign, Bellevue Days, Weirds, Personal Best, Cassels, Doe, Fizzy Blood, Sœur, Jonah Matranga, Giants, Tigercub, Away Days, Apologies, I Have None, The St. Pierre Snake Invasion, Louise Distras, Milestones, Polary, Making Monsters, wars, Vukovi, Straight Lines, Steven Battelle, Petrol Girls, The One Hundred, Queen Kwong, Area 11, Greywind and Strange Bones. That's a whopping *37* bands! And, as if that's not enough, there's still the rest of the headliners and loads more to come. Keep watching this space for the first news on all things 2000trees! Right, now where did we park our tractor?

WORDS: JENNYFER J.WALKER PHOTO: GETTY

THE FEED
THIS WEEK IN ROCK

Joel Birch: on the mend

"I FEEL GOOD. LIFE IS GREAT..."

THE AMITY AFFLICTION HAVE RECENTLY BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR **READING & LEEDS**, AND, JUST AS IMPORTANTLY, THEIR FRONTMAN **JOEL BIRCH** HAS TURNED HIS LIFE AROUND...

AUSTRALIAN METAL TITANS The Amity Affliction are preparing to spend much of 2017 on the road in support of their latest album, This Could Be Heartbreak – and that includes a newly-announced slot at Reading & Leeds this August. We thought there was no better time to catch up with frontman Joel Birch about what we can expect from their visit to Reading & Leeds, and the band's exciting plans for their as-yet-unrecorded new album. But Joel also wanted to talk about what life is like on the road now that he's sober, and how it's helped his anxiety for the better...

HEY, JOEL! HOW'S IT GOING?

JOEL BIRCH (*VOCALS*): "Well, at the beginning of last year, I started seeing a psychologist and going to Alcoholics Anonymous. For me, unfortunately, the damage may have been done and I'm sort of stuck with it. Being sober has curbed the severity of it somewhat. It's given me a chance to overcome it on a daily basis. Things are pretty good."

DID YOU FEEL A NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE WHEN YOU STOPPED DRINKING?

"I was pretty sick and lethargic for a few months, but now I can feel a massive difference. It's really, really good actually. Life is great."

HAS IT MADE TOURING DIFFICULT, THOUGH? THERE'S BOOZE EVERYWHERE...

"Not having a hangover on tour is a double-edged sword. It means I'm way more aware of what's going on. I get more homesick now that I'm not spending my time being drunk. I guess the best thing is that it's definitely made me feel way more appreciative of what I've got, whereas before I was on cruise control."

YOU'VE BEEN ADDED TO THE READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL BILL...

"It's such a historic festival for *everyone* – more than just the UK concert-goers. It's a monumental stalwart of the festival circuit, I think, and one that's had some of the most amazing bands in the world play it. We're very honoured to be invited."

DO YOU MAKE A NOTE OF WHICH OTHER BANDS TO CHECK OUT AT FESTIVALS LIKE THIS?

"In the past, when I was still drinking, I really didn't care. I'd just drink. More recently, I've been trying to check out bands and just enjoy being able to cruise around out back and see whoever you want. If our schedule is alright, it'd be cool to see some bands."

SO, IT WAS REPORTED IN KERRANG! RECENTLY THAT A MEMBER OF THE AMITY AFFLICTION ONCE SLEPT IN A BIN...

"That would've been Ahren [Stringer, vocalist/bassist]."

COULD HE SURVIVE IN A BRITISH FIELD AT THE HEIGHT OF WHAT'S SARCASTICALLY CALLED SUMMER? COULD HE SLEEP IN A READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL BIN?

"(*Laughs*) I think Dan [Brown, guitar] could, actually. He'd be the winner of coping. If I was still drinking, it would be easy, because do you really care when you're drunk? Have I ever been camping at a festival? Hell no! Not a chance."

WHAT ARE THE AMITY AFFLICTION'S OTHER PLANS FOR THE YEAR?

"We're going to South America for the first time in May, then the States. We'll do the festival run in the UK and Europe this summer, obviously. And it looks like we'll be back later in the year, too, and there'll be another U.S. tour somewhere in there. We've also started talking about producers for the next album as well."

YOU'VE TALKED IN THE PAST ABOUT WANTING TO MAKE A CONCEPT ALBUM. IS THAT STILL THE PLAN?

"I would still like to, but all the discussion about that happened before my whole life went to shit, so... I've still got a lot to talk about, put it that way. I'd like to do it, but I don't want to restrict myself to an idea. I'll let it come naturally, and if it falls into a story then that would be amazing. Dan and Ahren need to be on board, because they need to write the songs in order, which is very hard. The way we write isn't perfect for creating a storyline album. I write independently of the music, and they write independently of the lyrics. There's no real cohesion until we get to the studio. We'll all need to be on the same page, for sure. It's something I'd like to achieve before Amity's run its course. I feel like we've got a long time left, so there's no rush."

"I WAS PRETTY SICK FOR A FEW MONTHS"
JOEL BIRCH

Amity Affliction: Shit Decorators Inc.

For info visit **Readingfestival.com** and **Leedsfestival.com**

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG PHOTO: ANDY FORD

INCOMING!

ONE OF THE YEAR'S BEST NEW ALBUMS!

NEXT MONTH, K! FRESH BLOOD STARS **VUKOVI** RELEASE THEIR SELF-TITLED DEBUT ALBUM. WE CALLED **JANINE SHILSTONE** FOR A CHINWAG...

THE ALBUM'S ACE, JANINE! WERE YOU WELL PREPARED IN THE STUDIO?

JANINE SHILSTONE (*VOCALS*): "Some of the new songs were written two weeks before pre-production. I feel we're constantly discovering new styles and things we like, so if we sit on a song too long, we get bored. The album was done with producer Bruce Rintoul – we wanted his fresh outlook on some of the older songs, too. They took on a new personality."

WHAT THEMES DOES THE ALBUM COVER?

"One song, Wander, is about my brother's best friend Andrew who committed suicide. This was like a present for him. There's a lot about depression. The songs have been such a good way to describe the way I feel sometimes. I don't want it to be too personal about *me*, I'm just telling my story. This is what goes through my head sometimes. I'm sure people will hear it and go, 'Do you know what? I get that as well.' It's quite a dark album, but it's not depressing. It's ironic – the album sounds fun. It's a fun album, but some of the lyrics are pretty deep and dark. I think they're relatable."

DO YOU EVER WORRY YOU'RE REVEALING TOO MUCH LYRICALLY?

"Yes. I try to not give too much away. On my favourite albums, I like to have my own take on songs. Sometimes they can be personal and aggressive, where people go, 'Who are you talking about?' I need to be careful."

FINALLY, WHAT WAS THE LAST SONG YOU WROTE FOR THE ALBUM?

"I think it was And He Lost His Mind. It's definitely more jaggy and riffy. It's fun to play, but we weren't sure if it was too different to include on the album. Hamish's guitar-playing on that solo is him to a tee, and the outro has got *the* dirtiest whammy riff. So dirty."

Vukovi's self-titled album will be released on March 10 through LAB Records

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG

The fight for the last piece of bubblegum had a clear winner

HELP EMILY

DIG DEEP. ONE OF OUR OWN NEEDS YOUR CARING AND COMPASSION...

A GOFUNDME PAGE has been launched to cover the cost of Emily Hoffman's medical bills. Emily was left with a broken jaw after a concert-goer reportedly kicked her in the face wearing steel toe cap shoes in the mosh-pit of a Code Orange gig in Salt Lake City on January 21. Her story was widely circulated on the Internet, with several high-profile bands, including Architects, Milk Teeth and Code Orange themselves, condemning what happened.

"Please help support our friend Emily," said Code Orange. "We have all kinds of different people at these shows, and we have to all take care of each other – always. We've played hardcore shows all around the world and this is the first and only time an injury of this nature has taken place, and hopefully the last. We've been in contact with her and those around her since the beginning, and she knows she's got our support through this healing process. Our fans are very important to us, and as we continue to grow we all need to protect, support and help each other up."

Emily Hoffman

"He hit my jaw so hard that it moved the entire thing to one side, breaking it in two places on each side," said Emily, describing the incident. "The right side of my jaw was no longer connected to my skull or muscle, it was still in my face because of my skin."

All at K! wish Emily a speedy recovery. At the time of going to press, Emily's GoFundMe page stands at $20,965 of a $30,000 goal. You can donate personally at Gofundme.com/3b5g5ew. Look after each other, you guys.

NEWS

K!ONFIDENTIAL

ROCK GOSSIP AN

WELCOME TO THE BARK PARADE

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DOGS LIKE? SILLY QUESTION – OF COURSE YOU DO!

SCIENTISTS, WHO, let's be honest, could be spending their time doing something much more useful, like curing cancer or bringing dinosaurs back from the dead, have revealed that dogs are happier listening to reggae… or soft-rock.

The University of Glasgow and animal welfare charity the Scottish SPCA found that said genres provoked the most positive changes in behaviour, and the charity is now planning on installing sound systems in its kennels to pump out Bon Jovi and Bryan Adams' hits to their poochy inhabitants.

Neil Evans, Professor of Integrative Psychology at the University of Glasgow's Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, said, "Overall, the response to different genres was mixed, highlighting the possibility that, like humans, our canine friends have their own individual music preferences."

No word on what music the dogs disliked the most, but we're pretty sure that it was probably the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

WHY IS GUAC EXTRA?

If there's one upside to the world falling to pieces – and we're struggling here – it's that some of the signs at the protests have been funny. Like this effort, from Seth Blake of hotly-tipped rockers Wage War, whose one-man protest against Chipotle has resulted in minor meme fame, an opportunistic new Wage War T-shirt with 'Why is guac extra?' printed on the back, and five free burritos from Chipotle. That's the dream right there, that is.

FAME IN THE CROWD!

You'll know that Kerrang!'s regular Face In The Crowd competition rewards people with gig tickets, for, um, going to gigs and being a face in the crowd. But it's not often that a Kerrang! Award-winning musician ends up being said Face In The Crowd. One Tom Pitts wrote, "Hey, I got papped at the Gnarwolves show at The Haunt. Can I get my gig tickets? Quite funny, actually, I've been in Kerrang! a few times. I play drums for Rolo Tomassi and used to be in Throats." Next week: Marilyn Manson wins tickets for Mallory Knox. Maybe.

ROCKSTARS THAT LOOK LIKE LEGO

SPOTTED

Kelly Osbourne taking selfies with fans on the barrier after Black Sabbath's final O2 show ❱ *Royal Blood taking a break from making album number two at said show* ❱ '90s funnyman Bob Mortimer sat on a bench at Charing Cross station ❱ *Slaves, Young Guns' Gustav Wood and Rou Reynolds from Enter Shikari at the London anti-Trump protests. DUDES* ❱ SEEN A ROCKSTAR DOING SOMETHING? TELL US AT FEEDBACK@KERRANG.COM

PANDORA BY RAY ZELL Rayzell.com

UNDERØATH

REBIRTH TOUR MAY 2017

MON 1
MANCHESTER O2 RITZ

WED 3
NOTTINGHAM
ROCK CITY

THU 4
GLASGOW O2 ABC

FRI 5
NEWCASTLE
O2 ACADEMY

SAT 6
BIRMINGHAM
O2 INSTITUTE

MON 8
LEEDS
BECKETT UNIVERSITY

TUE 9
LONDON O2 FORUM

WED 10
NORWICH
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seetickets.com / 0870 220 0260

12/03/17 **Bristol** O2 Academy
ticketweb.co.uk / 0844 477 2000

14/03/17 **Bilston** Robin 2
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15/03/17 **Northampton** Roadmenders
alttickets.com / 0871 220 0260

17/03/17 **Glasgow** SOLD OUT
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18/03/17 **Inverness** Ironworks
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19/03/17 **Aberdeen** Garage
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THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART

YOU ME AT SIX HAVE BEEN SWORN IN AS THE NEXT CHAMPIONS! CAN NEW ENTRIES FROM **BIFFY CLYRO** AND **DEAF HAVANA** CHANGE IT ALL NEXT WEEK?

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	7	1	YOU ME AT SIX	Swear	BMG
2	7	2	LOWER THAN ATLANTIS	Had Enough	EASY LIFE
3	10	2	GREEN DAY	Still Breathing	REPRISE
4	8	4	KORN	Take Me	ROADRUNNER
5	1	5	BIFFY CLYRO	Flammable	14TH FLOOR
6	3	6	FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES	Wild Flowers	KOBALT
7	10	2	MALLORY KNOX	Giving It Up	SONY
8	4	8	CREEPER	Hiding With Boys	ROADRUNNER
9	4	7	MOOSE BLOOD	Cheek	HOPELESS
10	12	1	BMTH	Oh No	SONY
11	5	10	BFMV	Don't Need You	SPINEFARM
12	1	12	DEAF HAVANA	Fever	SO RECORDINGS
13	8	1	BIFFY CLYRO	Re-arrange	14TH FLOOR
14	2	14	DANNY WORSNOP	Mexico	EARACHE
15	1	15	STARSET	Monster	RAZOR & TIE
16	5	15	WHILE SHE SLEEPS	Hurricane	WHILE SHE SLEEPS
17	15	2	CREEPER	Suzanne	ROADRUNNER
18	15	5	ENTER SHIKARI	Hoodwinker	AMBUSH REA
19	5	13	GREYWIND	Circle	SPINEFARM
20	15	3	AIRBOURNE	Rivalry	SPINEFARM

FRANK CARTER, FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES

HEY, FRANK! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE YOUR SECOND ALBUM, MODERN RUIN, OUT THERE NOW?
"It feels amazing! We've been waiting for this record to be let loose into the world for a while."

ARTIST JAKE CHAPMAN DIRECTED THE VIDEO TO WILD FLOWERS – WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT HIS WORK?
"His work is always fiercely unique, and he's never scared to do exactly what he wants. I find it inspiring that he has made a life for himself as an artist by trying to make the weird – and often completely insane – thoughts in his head a reality."

FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING ABOUT THE SONG THAT PEOPLE MIGHT NOT KNOW?
"We wrote it before we wrote [debut album] Blossom! We just didn't think it'd fit on our first record, but it was perfect for Modern Ruin."

STEPH O'SULLIVAN, GREYWIND

WHAT IS CIRCLE ABOUT?
"It's about feeling trapped in a never-ending cycle, and not ever being able to escape from it."

DOES THE TRACK HAVE ANY SECRETS?
"It was one of the first songs we ever wrote, and it helped set the direction we wanted the album to go in."

WHY DID IT END UP BECOMING A SINGLE?
"We chose it because every time we've played it live, we've always had an incredible reaction from people. It's one of our favourites!"

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ISSUE 1657 FEB 11, 2017

TIRED LION

FOR FANS OF: SMASHING PUMPKINS, PIXIES, THE BREEDERS

WORDS: SIMON YOUNG PHOTO: JAMES

SO, WHO ARE THIS WEEK'S MANE ATTRACTION?

Clever. This is Tired Lion, a grunge quartet from Perth. But enough with the big cat puns. Trust us when we say that their name means absolutely nothing. Someone threw together an adjective and a noun and that was it. Tired Lion – Sophie Hopes (vocals, guitar), Matt Tanner (guitar) Ethan Darnell (drums) and Nick Vasey (bass) – have been kicking ass in their hometown, and their fierce work ethic is beginning to pay off. "There's limited venues in Perth, and the scene is pretty strong," says Sophie. "In order to get noticed you have to work your butt off and prove yourself. Speaking from experience, if you do get offered great opportunities, people start trying to put you down a little, which sucks."

PEOPLE SUCK... WHAT ANNOYED SOME OF THE BANDS IN THEIR LOCAL SCENE?

Well, last summer, it may have been something to do with Tired Lion's 9000-mile trip to the UK. There, they made friends at the likes of 2000trees, Latitude and Glastonbury. We bet that really wound up some folks back home. But it seems the band were having too much fun to care. "I thought we'd be playing a side-

> ***"AT A YOUNG AGE, I REALISED I DIDN'T FIT IN ANYWHERE..."***

stage or something, but playing on the John Peel Stage was amazing," says Sophie. "We were pretty jet-lagged, so it felt like a dream. At the festivals we played, we saw that people were there to discover new music and not just get fucked-up drunk. It was cool."

IS IT TRUE TIRED LION'S SONGS ARE FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T QUITE FIT IN?

Yep. When she was 15, Modest Mouse's song of isolation, Dramamine, really spoke to Sophie, and it's something she's channelled into her own band's songs. "It's a reoccurring theme," she explains. "At a pretty young age, I realised that I didn't really fit in anywhere perfectly. Sometimes you'd have to try and be someone else to fit in – and that never really worked out for me at all."

THEY'RE SERIOUS ABOUT WHAT THEY DO, BUT LIKE TO TAKE THE PISS, TOO...

Get on YouTube and watch the video for their single Not My Friends. It's a pitch-perfect parody of classic U.S. sitcoms Friends, The Office and, um, Home Improvement. And on tour, they relish the chance to fool around. "We're not super-uptight, and have done a few crazy things like sculling beers out of shoes," says Sophie. We'll drink to that – but from a glass. We're not animals...

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT? Aussie grunge quartet who will blow your mind!
CHECK OUT: The ace video for Not My Friends.
HEAR: New single, I Don't Think You Like Me, out now.
MORE INFO: Tiredlion.com.au
DON'T MISS: The band play London's Old Blue Last on March 28.
DON'T MISS: Tired Lion and more bands on Alex Baker's Fresh Blood show on Wednesdays at 10pm on K! Radio.

FRESH BLOOD
ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS

(L – R:) Ethan Darnell (drums), Sophie Hopes (vocals/guitar), Nick Vasey (bass), Matt Tanner (guitar)

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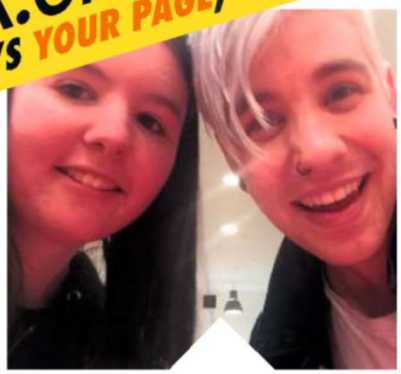

SMILE TONES

"I saw As It Is and met Patty when they did their signing at HMV Manchester," says **@bekaktrxsh**, *choosing not to mention the fact that they're now forever conjoined by the tops of their heads.*

EMPEROR'S NEW PHONE

"I DIY'd my phone case with bits of Kerrang!," a very creative **@woodywentz** *reveals. This is cool! BRB while we steal this idea and start branching out with different types of merch – K!-themed laptop cases, anyone? How about toastie-makers, garden furniture, cross-trainers and brooms? No? Fair enough. Your loss.*

JUST THE WAY YOU ART

Here's **@jemlikesbands**' *badass digital drawing of Pierce The Veil. We think there might be something missing, though, but we're not sure. If we don't work it out soon then we'll have egg on our face. Unlike these guys.*

WINNER!

SIGNING THE SEVENTH TRUMPET

"Avenged Sevenfold have been my absolute favourite band for 10 years now," says **Adrienne Titley**. *"I was VIP for their show in Cardiff on January 19! After the show I got to meet the band!! I lost my dad to suicide 18 months ago and he was a big A7X fan, so M. Shadows took his time to write down lyrics to So Far Away for me to get tattooed in memory of my dad. Even though security were hurrying him along, he took his time to write the lyrics in 'his best handwriting'. It means the world to me and I would love it if you could feature this story in an issue of Kerrang!." This is absolutely awesome, Adrienne. We're so sorry for your loss, but glad M. Shadows could take the time to help pay tribute to your dad. Drop us an email at Feedback@kerrang.com, because you've won a pair of Download Festival tickets!*

STICKS AND SELFIES

"Went to Cardiff and this happened," says **@frodo alice** *casually. When you say 'this happened', do you mean you stumbled across two absolutely giant members of New Found Glory? Because that happens to us all the time.*

RUNNING WITH THE WILD INK

"Here's a not-so-great picture I drew of Chrissy Costanza," says a very modest **@StrangerJazz_**. *On the contrary, dude, this is very-very-very great! She looks kinda mesmerised about Adrienne's encounter with M. Shadows above. Can the world expect an Against The Current/Avenged Sevenfold mash-up any time soon? We really, really hope not.*

THE HUGGY-MOON SUITE

"Throwback to that time when I met Hannah from Creeper outside Brixton Academy!" says ***@laurenisreallynotnormal****. With a username like that, Lauren, we're surprised Hannah let you get that close. We're scared :(*

I'LL KEEP YOU IN MIND, FROM SMILE TO SMILE

"Can't believe I had a photo with half of my favourite band, Moose Blood!" smiles ***James Phillips****. Never mind having a photo with them, James, you look like you could actually BE a member. Can we sort this out, people? Just learn the triangle or something. You're welcome.*

FACE IN THE CROWD

IS THIS YOU?

BAND: The Dillinger Escape Plan
WHEN: 25.01.17
WHERE: London O2 Kentish Town Forum

■ WERE YOU at Dillinger's last-ever London headline show, but wearing an A7X T-shirt? Did you go to the wrong gig by mistake? It's okay, it happens to the best of us. Anyway, to ease the pain of not seeing the mighty TDEP again (mega-sadface), send a recent picture of yourself and a snap of your gig ticket to Feedback@kerrang.com – ***YOU'VE WON TWO TICKETS TO SEE COUNTERFEIT!***

PICCY OF EVIL

"I couldn't believe when I saw your Avenged Sevenfold poster in last week's issue, because it looked just like the photo I had taken at their Glasgow show. Looking at my own picture, I think I can see the K! photographer taking the picture you printed!" says an eagle-eyed ***Hope Smith****. "Me and my friend Cat are huge A7X fans and we were down at the front with a Deathbat saltire we made that M. Shadows took from us near the end of the show. We waited over two hours after the show in stormy weather but managed to meet M Shadows and Zacky Vengeance, so it was worth it!" This is a long old story, Hope, but we're super-impressed with your observation – this in indeed K! snapper Paul Harries! If we ever need more pics of the backs of our photographers' heads, we'll be in touch.*

ST. PORTRAIT

"Hey! So I drew Lynn Gunn and didn't know if you could maybe put it in one of your magazines? That would be frickin awesome!" ***Josie Lister*** *says. Consider it done, Josie! The detail in this is impressive. We see you there eyeing up our Reading & Leeds ticket prize, Lynn. IT'S. NOT. FOR. YOU. How many times do we have to explain this?*

NEXT WEEK

WIN! READING LEEDS 2017 TICKETS!

Right. Brace yourselves. Here's what we'd really like to see from your brilliant selves this week…
1) A photo of a pizza where the cheese is melted to look like a member of Green Day's face.
2) A recreation of twenty one pilots' Heathens video, but with peas.
3) A selfie with Enter Shikari where you're all riding imaginary horses.
The winner will receive a pair of tickets to either Reading Festival or Leeds Festival to see Muse, Korn, The Amity Affliction, Jimmy Eat World and more!

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VALENTINE'S SPECIAL

The HEART Of The MATTER

THIS VALENTINE'S DAY, **FRANK IERO** RETURNS TO THE EMBRACE OF UK FANS WHO ADORE HIM LIKE NO OTHER. HAVING SURVIVED A HORRIFIC BUS CRASH LAST OCTOBER, THAT HE'S COMING AT ALL IS REALLY NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE. FOR THE FIRST TIME, FRANK TELLS THE FULL STORY OF THAT DAY, AND TALKS LOVE, LIFE AND DEATH, EXCLUSIVELY WITH HANNAH EWENS…

PHOTOS: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

Since the accident four months ago, Frank Iero's thoughts often stray back to that day. The vehicle that hit them; the sequence of events; the fact that everyone made it out alive. "It's funny, the things that will trigger it," he says today, from his home in New Jersey. "Early on, it was hard for me to even be in a parking lot. Or be surrounded by the sounds of a motor vehicle. Even just looking at a car, it was in the forefront of my mind. Now I'm strong enough to be able to drive, but every now and again, you have those close calls. They're still hard. They were. I had a really hard time sleeping for a while. It's always there, you know? I'm trying not to dwell on it, but some days are better than others, and there are times when you have to catch yourself a bit."

On October 13 last year, Frank was in Australia with his band, The Patience, unloading their touring van when he, his bandmates and crew were hit by a city bus. Reports were frustratingly minimal over the following days – all fans knew was that it was a serious accident that left people injured but stable. The next piece of news

was that the band would be cancelling all of their remaining 2016 tour commitments. Their new album, Parachutes, arrived later that month, and while Frank and his band should have been celebrating its release by playing its songs live onstage, instead they were consigned to the privacy of a long, painful recovery. Part of that was physical, fixing what had been damaged in hospital and physiotherapy, but a significant part of the recovery was emotional; making sense of what had happened and what it meant to him.

"It's a strange thing to have to experience and then have to be okay with," Frank explains. "My psyche has gone through these weird stages and split off into these factions. The first part is that there's anger involved, because it's senseless. There's definitely a part of you that almost feels bad that you didn't get as hurt [as other people]. Then there's this overwhelming feeling that we weren't supposed to survive that. No-one who saw that accident thought that we would walk or even come away from it. The doctors in Australia literally said to us, 'Never buy another lottery ticket, because you've already won.' You go through this feeling of, 'This is our new birthday, this is our new lease of life. We shouldn't be here and we need to do things and experience things and make a difference, because we got this amazing gift.' I've realised that's what people want to hear from you. It means that you're alright for getting through it. There is a part of you that feels that."

Everything happens for a reason, or so they say. Frank buys into that philosophy and with the conditions of the crash, it's impossible to see otherwise. "The way every little split second happened led to us surviving it," he remembers. "Opening the back of our trunk protected our heads; me bending down to get my pedalboard lodged me underneath the van's bumper in such a way that I didn't get caught between [the van and the bus]." It was, in short, a miracle.

There is a but. These thoughts didn't swirl around without stranger and darker ones playing on Frank's mind – a third metaphysical "stage". "There's a part of you that wonders: 'Did we actually make it through? Is this what happens after you die?'" Frank explains. "Maybe your brain keeps moving and you invent this other reality. Maybe this isn't real and your brain is keeping going in a lifeless body. Then you think, 'Well, it's been however long now, regardless of whether this is real or not, it's real for me. I'm here.' So you have to do something with it."

Simply put, what Frank Iero went through that day was a near-death experience. Frank asks Kerrang! to think about his house. Despite never having stepped foot in it (Frank has moved since our 2013 cover feature found us in his living room), we have a vague idea of what it might look like – doors, windows, walls. We can imagine Frank's house as we imagine death, he explains – "We can think we know what to expect" – but our impression of it is so nebulous. The vast majority of us who, unlike Frank, have never nearly tasted death, are so wrong.

"It's incredible to me how apparent and clear things got in that moment. I've realised a lot of things, some of which I've yet to even put to words. The frailty of life and of a human being, of a body, is incredible. You realise in a split second, it becomes so 20/20 how fragile and how special life is. How in a blink of an eye, it can be ripped from you in a very, very brutal way. It's eye-opening.

"To have met death and to have shaken its hand, and know that eventually I'll have to do it again is so terrifying, and dare I say, disappointing," he says slowly, his words considered. "Some people just do it once and you're gone. I'm going to have to do that again, and that's weird. It's something that you have to work through. It's like seeing the future and experiencing the inevitable."

It's still not long ago that Frank lost his much-

"THE DOCTORS TOLD US, 'NEVER BUY A LOTTERY TICKET – YOU'VE ALREADY WON'"

FRANK IERO

FRANK IERO

Frank, shot exclusively for Kerrang! in New Jersey, February 2017

JOY DIVISION
LOVE WILL TEAR US APART

"It might be the most brutally honest song about a failing relationship ever written."
FIND IT: Substance (1988)

BLACK FLAG
JEALOUS AGAIN

"Jealousy breeds resentment... and Black Flag rules."
FIND IT: Jealous Again EP (1980)

THE CURE
PICTURES OF YOU

"If you never got choked up while listening to this song... well, you're a liar."
FIND IT: Disintegration (1989)

ALKALINE TRIO
RADIO

"Scorn at its finest. If you've ever been fucked over, this is your anthem."
FIND IT: Maybe I'll Catch Fire (2000)

JOHNNY CASH
YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE

"A lot of us grew up singing the chorus as kids but never knowing what extreme sorrow the song was about. It's been covered by many artists, but Cash can do no wrong."
FIND IT: Land Of The Free Home Of The Brave (1969)

loved grandfather to the inevitable, a man he described as "everything", a huge inspiration for Parachutes. "It's knowing that the people you love will go through that at some point. There's part of you that's thankful that you are still here. But there's definitely a part that kind of wishes that it was over so that I don't have to do it again. I don't mean that in a sad, depressing way. It's the reality of it.

"There are certain experiences that should be once in a lifetime," he says, decidedly. "I feel like that's one of them. I don't feel like the same person as I was before. I know I'm not."

Halfway through Parachutes, just as you've settled into Frank's latest sound, a quiet hum explodes into him screaming, wailing *'Just let me go.'* All raging licks and distortion, Dear Percocet, I Don't Think We Should See Each Other Anymore is two-and-a-bit minutes of howling anxiety. *'I don't wanna die yet, just wish that I could be remembered / Don't wanna watch my life pass me by, with eyes of longing,'* Frank agonises. This – like the rest of the album – is Frank obsessing over life and death; wanting to "live in the now" but also considering his legacy. It ends with 9-6-15, a song for his grandfather and a reminder that one day, we all run out of time. It seems inconceivable that this was the album Frank wrote just before this crash, one that he was prevented from performing because of a close shave with his own mortality, and that would leave him having to reaffirm these debates and life lessons the

"YOU REALISE WHAT TRULY MEANS A LOT"
FRANK IERO

album offers. The strangest of coincidences.

"Isn't that just fucking bizarre?" he replies, when K! puts that synchronicity to him. "There was a sense when I was waiting for the bus's tyre to come, that at least I knew my last statement was one that I've always wanted to make. That felt kind of peaceful."

Last time Kerrang! spoke to Frank back in September, before the crash, he explained what the parachutes of the album title were all about: "The things that we love, and the things that bring us joy and happiness, are the things that save us." So what are Frank's parachutes? On one level, those have been his wife, Jamia, and three children – twin daughters Cherry and Lily, and son Miles. Going through this crash has changed how he thinks of being a father and husband, among other things. "What you viewed as important before maybe isn't, when you realise what is truly important, and what really means a lot. The recovery process is a strange beast, because there are times where you have to be – dare I say – selfish. You have to worry about yourself a bit, because you know if you don't recover fully and get your time to do that then you won't be the father and husband that you want to be, and you won't get back fully. But as far as relationships go, [the change] is something that's hard to put into words but you feel on a second to second basis."

He hasn't yet explained to his children what happened in Australia – they're too young. Part of thinking about what is important to him post-crash means it won't be as easy to leave them all behind when touring – and there's a UK/Europe tour fast approaching. "All telling them would do is scare them,

The Darkest DAY

FRANK OPENS UP LIKE NEVER BEFORE ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN BUS CRASH OF OCTOBER 2016

HOW DID THE DAY OF THE ACCIDENT START?

Frank: "We were outside the Twitter offices on Park Street in Sydney. We were gonna play a couple of songs acoustic, do a live Q&A and head to the venue. My brother, Evan [Nestor, guitar], my manager, Paul [Clegg], and drummer, Matt [Olsson], all got out and opened the hatchback trunk to unload. I had this pedalboard case made of metal and the funny thing about it is, that trip we did 11 flights in five days or something ridiculous like that, and every flight I was very paranoid that this case – which had all my pedals which are important to me – had to come on with me, and not be checked in. Flash forward, and it actually ended up being run over by the bus but everything in it survived, it was kinda weird. Anyway, I put the case down on the curb and opened it up. I was crouched down and what I wanted to say to the guys was, 'I think I'm just going to take out my tuner and leave the rest here,' but I got as far as, 'I think I'm just gonna…' and at that moment, this thing just hit us."

WHAT WENT THROUGH YOUR MIND AT THAT POINT?

"It was one of those flash moments, like getting tackled. I got hit under my arm and somehow ended up underneath the bumper of this double-decker city bus. I remember from my vantage point I could see Evan, his legs pinned between that bumper and the steel bumper of our passenger van. I just hear screams coming from what I could tell was Paul and then just smashing. I remember trying to watch to see what was going to

Survivors: Frank Iero And The Patience

happen but I kept having to turn my head because the glass was just hitting me in the face. It was just raining shards. I knew that at some point the tyre had to be coming."

HOW DID YOU SURVIVE?

"I had this huge military-grade backpack, like those Desert Storm ones. Everyone makes fun of me because I overpack and over-prepare for everything. I had this thing on and somehow that ended up in between the curb, and with my arm hooked on underneath the bumper, I slid along the gutter. When the bus hit us it didn't stop – it pushed through us and dragged us for about 10 feet. I still see it all the time. It's one of those things that gets burned into your memory, along with the sounds. I'm sure the accident only lasted a matter of seconds, but it felt like 20 minutes. I remember every moment that went by: what I felt, what I thought. I remember thinking, 'He has to know that he's hit us, why isn't the bus stopping and the tyres are coming and are they going to hit my legs first or is it going to go over me completely? This is it.'"

Local news reports the crash

WHAT HAPPENED ONCE THE BUS STOPPED?

"The glass was still raining down even when it stopped. I had no idea where Matt was. I heard Paul yell to our publicist in Australia, who was driving the passenger van, to pull the van forward, and when she did that she released Paul and Evan. When she did that, Paul kinda fell down into the back of our van and Evan crumpled out and fell down to the pavement in front of me. I remember him saying, 'I can't feel my legs.' At that point I knew he was alive but I thought he'd been paralysed or something. I was able to crawl out from underneath the bus and over to him. That's when I saw Paul and started to see this growing puddle of the brightest red I'd ever seen. I cradled Evan's head and got that knapsack off somehow and I put a jacket underneath his head. That's when I saw Matt come over and knew he was alive.

"From that point, that's when the crowd starts to form. I heard someone say that there were helicopters coming. They flew in a doctor. I remember the cops coming over and one cop was tending to Paul. He'd cut his pants where the wounds were and I'd never seen anything as brutal. It made sense to me because when you see something like that, it feels like there's this force of nature and you realise how powerless you are to this brutality. I've never been attacked by a shark but I imagine it's probably the same thing, these blank eyes of a bus or blank eyes of a shark tearing through you and there's literally nothing you can do; you're just at the mercy of this force. The cop tied a tourniquet around his leg and there's no doubt in my mind that either saved Paul's life or saved his leg. From there paramedics came and worked on Evan as well, put us into ambulances and shot us full of drugs and took us to the hospital."

HOW LONG WAS THE IMMEDIATE RECOVERY PROCESS?

"Paul and Evan had surgeries and we were there for close to two weeks. We started some physiotherapy in Australia so we could get to the point where they could release us to fly. Sometimes the biggest concern with that kind of stuff is blood clotting. They want to get you mobile enough to fit in the seat or just be able to travel. Funny enough, our visas for Australia were running out the next day, so I had to petition for medical visas – and they denied it. We didn't have a permanent residence in Australia and I said, 'Well, our residence is the hospital.' So I had to resubmit, and I got a letter maybe two days after we'd got home that they'd denied our visas again."

HOW'S THE RECOVERY BEEN GOING BACK IN AMERICA?

"So we started minimal physical therapy there but the intense stuff started back in America with physio three days a week. I got a couple of ligaments torn in my foot and tendonitis and torn muscles in my arm and my shoulder. My shoulder isn't working great. The strength training is definitely helping hold the ball joint in place a little bit and I'm definitely feeling a difference. I've been getting these steroid shots in my shoulder and I'm liking that. (*Laughs*) But the size of the needle is fucking intimidating – I've never seen a needle so big. I have a really good doctor now. Hopefully they're shooting me with something that's helping!"

so I'm glad my kids aren't worried about me leaving," Frank says. "But for me, it's something that I need to find out if I can still do. This is all I've ever known, all I've ever done, it partially defines the person that I am. I do love it so. At least 55 per cent more than I hate it," he adds, laughing. "To allow it to be taken from me without a fight is not something I'm prepared to let happen. This is also the record I'm the most proud of and I put so much of myself into it that to never play guitar on those songs live is something I know I would regret forever."

The tour is supporting Taking Back Sunday and the UK leg, in front of the fans with whom Frank has shared the longest and deepest love affair, begins on the most romantic day of the year: Valentine's Day. Not, however, that Frank is bothered by being away from home on such a day – "Putting a lot of stock in the one day of showing love is not my thing – show it every other day." Instead, support in the form of romantic love for him is "going out of your way to show that person that they're cared for and loved at all times. We all want to be loved whether we admit it or not. The striving of having someone care about you and accept you for the person that you are unconditionally."

Frank's had that reciprocal acceptance from an early age. "For myself and my wife in our relationship, we knew very early on that we were right for each other. We were young, knew we had to grow and we weren't going to get married at, like, 19. But we also knew that with little things that might normally annoy someone, we were going to have a lot of these throughout our life. We'd ask, 'Is this something that is worth not ending up together over?' And if it's not, then just fucking let it go. That was a big thing for us. Of course, we've had our moments, all people do, we're human beings. There was definitely an understanding early on that this was it, this was real special.

"It's a cliché, but people say it because it's true: when you do meet that really special person that was made for you and you for them, it's like an explosion goes off and you know it," Frank smiles. "Sometimes that doesn't happen for everybody; sometimes it doesn't happen at the right time in your life. But if you're lucky enough to hold onto it and make it work then you can have a really rewarding and beautiful life together."

> "WE ALL WANT TO BE LOVED, WHETHER WE ADMIT IT OR NOT"
> FRANK IERO

Then, of course, there's that other love that doesn't come from human beings. It's for music, and it's a very different drug altogether. "Ahhh," he laughs. "It is a love that will very rarely love you back when you want it to. The love for music is more of an addiction type of love than a romantic, unconditional love. You taste the highs and you despise the lows, but you keep coming back. Sometimes it makes you feel like a god and sometimes it destroys you. Some people can make it work and they can do it as a career and that's an amazing feat. Some people will throw their entire lives into keeping that addiction going. It's unlike anything else."

Does he think he needs both to be happy? "Yes," comes the reply. "I don't think I'd be fully fulfilled without a family by any means. I also don't know if I'd be fully fulfilled as a person without creating."

There's equilibrium for Frank. Yet, the obstacles are there. It's not just leaving his family. It's playing. In physio he is relearning how to do basic things, even actions he's been doing his whole life. "I feel like I've begun to play differently guitar-wise and I hold the guitar in a different way," he admits. "You're trying to maximise the amount of things you can do and counterbalance the amount of pain you're feeling when you're doing it."

There have been practices. There has been frustration and progress. But he has to wait until The Patience's first show playing together live to really *know*.

It's Saturday night at Starland Ballroom, New Jersey and Circa Survive are readying themselves to play a show. Before them, though, an unknown band called Aerosniff are supporting. Worst case scenario: a crappy local emo band. Best case: Aerosmith with a cold. After blazing through some punk rock, Aerosniff announce they're actually Frank Iero And The Patience, and better yet, some people aren't bothered. The band are, though – it's the first time they've played a show since the accident.

The following day, 48 hours after our initial interview, Frank is in good spirits. "All those demons and gremlins are going to show up, so it's better to get them out when you're not actually *supposed* to be playing," he chuckles. The following weekend was what everyone thought would be the first show they'd play – the big return at the small Monty Hall in New Jersey. Frank had wanted a warm-up show, small and sweaty with all the fans who love him, but he'd needed an anonymous one, for better or worse, good or bad, where whatever happened could happen. "It was a very selfish experience for me. Sometimes you play shows and it's give and take, and you get as much out of it as the crowd does. But last night, no offence, I didn't care about the crowd – it was just about the four of us onstage. And it was exhilarating.

"The whole day was very strange," he recalls. "Until yesterday, I didn't know how much emotion and feelings I had about the whole ordeal were tied into playing. I didn't realise how much it would affect me to know that that day had finally come and I'd get up onstage again; how much getting up onstage was tied into the accident and all the feelings I had surrounding the accident. It was closing the door on this chapter of recovery and downtime. It was rough, emotional, but by the end of the day, it felt like a triumph."

There was also the matter of the physical pain to consider – Frank didn't know if he could play properly, in a way that was satisfactory for him. "It was a little rough, but I feel like it was manageable," he says of the pain. "There were definitely things that I found out that I can't really do anymore. We'll see what happens with that. The scary thing is that going on tour will mean having to play every night and I'll only find out how I feel two or three days in. But, as of right now, I'm feeling kinda awesome just thinking about it. Hey, man, maybe it won't get better but it'll get different. We'll see."

Finally, too, it meant playing those songs live. "Many, many nights I imagined starting a set with World Destroyer [Parachutes' opening track] and how it would translate to a live audience, so that was incredible. A wonderful feeling to actually have that come to fruition."

What 2017 will hold, however, is currently unwritten. "I wasn't able to play and when I did it hurt and I didn't think I'd be able to. When we finally got home it seemed like this world seemed so far away again, so we'll see." Although he's been writing, as ever, it doesn't feel right to write about the accident or its aftermath. "When you make an art piece, a record, you finish it and you relinquish control of it," Frank explains. "It grows and becomes its own thing; it lives and breathes out in the world. Right now, granted I've talked about it a little bit, but it's still just locked in my head. It's mine completely and I'm in control of it. But in writing a song about it or a record about it or singing about it, and giving up that control over it, that's scary to me."

For now, Kerrang! are just pleased that first secret show was everything he could hope it'd be. "Me too," Frank laughs. "It would've been real depressing [otherwise]. It would have been a real shit end to the story. 'Guess what – it was horrible, I never wanna do this again!'"

After Parachutes was released, Frank wrote on his blog, "Such as with life, we are all just falling or plunging to an eventual end, but the love of my family and my ability to create art and music has always been my parachute." Before he signs off, he finishes: "This album is one of my parachutes." Playing it as he was so excited to do, sharing it as it was meant to be shared, exorcising its demons feels like the final parachute he needs now to land safely.

FRANK IERO AND THE PATIENCE TOUR THE UK THIS WEEK WITH TAKING BACK SUNDAY – SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFORMATION

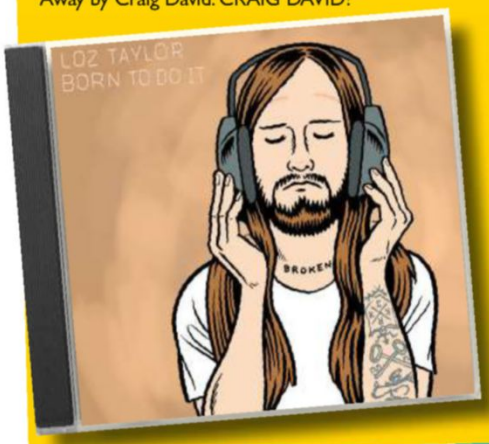
Dating DISASTERS

BECAUSE EVEN ROCKSTARS CAN HAVE A SHOCKER WHEN IT COMES TO MATTERS OF THE HEART...

ILLUSTRATIONS: PHIL MARSDEN

LOZ TAYLOR, WHILE SHE SLEEPS

"In school I had a huge crush on a girl in the year above me. We started to get to know each other through a shared love of music. At that time I was only just getting to grips with heavier bands, so I was trying to act like I knew bands she knew, then going home to check them out. We started hanging out quite a lot over the next few months. It was drawing towards Christmas and I spent a lot of time figuring out what I was going to get for her. I ended up getting her an Anti-Flag vinyl that was very difficult to get hold of and cost quite a lot of money, but I'd spent my time washing cars, working in the local corner shop and doing things to help my parents out so they'd give me money. Out of the blue one day, without a single warning, she gave me the gift that she'd purchased. What happened next I will never forget: I open it, and staring me in the face is Craig bloody David. She only decided to dump me over the Christmas holidays and give me Walking Away by Craig David. CRAIG DAVID!"



JAMES VECK-GILODI, DEAF HAVANA

"When I'm first around any girl I really like, I'm a nervous wreck and struggle to get words out. I'll panic and ask questions like, 'How often do you *sleep*?' and basically sound like a serial killer! Once, when I went around to my now-girlfriend's house, I was really sweaty because I'd been on the tube with a massive coat on, and I was really red in the face. She was speaking to me, and I tried to speak back – which I thought I did, but she told me later I was actually just making this weird groaning noise!"

AWSTEN KNIGHT, WATERPARKS

"I was hanging out with this girl a while back that I quickly found out was the human equivalent to a trash can. One day, when we got in the car, she made fun of me for wearing a seatbelt, and told me that said she didn't like dogs. And then she spent a good 15 minutes *yelling* at her mom on the phone in front of me. I actually had Geoff [Wigington, guitar] call my phone so I could bail out early."

JANINE SHILSTONE, VUKOVI

"When I found out my ex was cheating on me, I suggested we have a 'date night' at the cinema. Before he picked me up in his pride-and-joy car, I purchased a very large packet of prawns. When we got there and bought tickets, I told him I'd left my glasses in his car, so he gave me his keys. I planted a whole packet of prawns down the side of his back seats of his car in the heat of summer. To top it off, during the film, I also caught him texting the 'other girl'. A few months later I heard through the grapevine he had to get rid of said pride-and-joy due to a mysterious fishy scent that just wouldn't scrub out..."

JAYDEN SEELEY, WITH CONFIDENCE

"I was 17 when a girl way out of my league agreed to go to the movies with me. She was cool, and I was not. She was beautiful, and I was puberty's practical joke. Nervous doesn't do justice to how I was feeling. We got to the movies and I was an awkward mess, small-talking with the skill of a two-year-old. To make the situation better, the only movie available was a B-grade Bollywood movie. I tried to laugh it off and we went to grab snacks for the movie. As we were being served by the cashier I unknowingly left both tickets at the counter and we ended up missing the first 20 minutes looking for them. To top it off, when we finally got in, I tripped and dropped the popcorn all over her."

ELIJAH WITT, CANE HILL

"I can count six dates I've been on that ended in me covered in my date's vomit. Clearly I'm repulsive. One time, specifically, was less like a date, and more like me and a girl competitively drinking bourbon against another guy and girl. I guess I just expected her to keep up. It ended with me putting her to bed and her promptly projectile vomiting all over the bed and me. Sick."

LANDE HEKT, MUNCIE GIRLS

"A guy once came up to me in a pub because he'd seen my band play before. Soon enough, he leapt up onstage and played some heartfelt open-mic numbers. Normally I would've winced at such a Coldplay-esque performance, but flattery had disrupted my common sense and I was impressed.

"When I was back from tour, I bumped into him in Sainsbury's and we swapped numbers like it was normal. A few days later – on his lunch break, no less – we went for a cup of tea together. He told me that normally on his lunch break he goes running and then scoffs a pasta pot on the way back to the office. I was appalled. When we entered the café, he immediately ordered himself a cheese and ham – maybe bacon – toastie. I'm vegan, but didn't say anything. Then, when we sat down, he took off his jacket... only to reveal that he was wearing a Kings Of Leon T-shirt."

AS TOLD TO: SAM COARE, DAN SLESSOR

Aunt AGONY

WITH ASH COSTELLO

HAVING A RELATIONSHIP SHOCKER THIS VALENTINE'S? DON'T KNOW WHO TO TURN TO? FEAR NOT – THE **NEW YEARS DAY** VOCALIST IS HERE FOR YOU. WARNING: CONTAINS SASS

DEAR ASH,

I've been with my boyfriend for a year now, and he's beginning to talk about moving in together. I've never thought about us in the 'long term', and it's scaring me a bit. Should I take that as a sign that we're not meant to be together? I don't want to rush into any decisions, but equally I don't want to lead him along if we're ultimately going nowhere.

LUCY, BRISTOL

ASH SAYS... *"I was given some good advice when I was single. I was about to meet a guy, and I texted my manager asking whether it's okay to kiss on the third date, and he replied saying, 'If you don't already know whether you want to kiss this guy, go home... no fourth date – just leave!' So, with that in mind, if you're not sure whether you want to take that next step, maybe you should know? Sit on this one for a bit and decide which side of the fence you're on."*

DEAR ASH,

The girl I've recently started seeing hates the music that I love. We get on really well otherwise, but music is my life and I just don't know whether we can get over such a difference. Is it possible for a couple to have such a massive difference in things they love?

SEB, DURHAM

ASH SAYS... *"One hundred per cent! It's good to have different interests – that's how you grow. If you were both the same, where could you really go? It would be so boring. Maybe it sucks that it's something that's such an important interest to you, but I've dated people with the total opposite music taste, and as long as you enjoy each other's company, nothing else matters."*

DEAR ASH,

My boyfriend is really friendly with loads of other girls; like, all his best friends are girls. I've never seen or heard anything to suggest he's ever cheated on me or will, but it's making me jealous. Should I bring it up with him or am I being totally unreasonable?

LOUISE, CHESHIRE

ASH SAYS... *"Communication is key! Don't bottle up your feelings. If you're feeling jealous, then you really need to take a step back and ask yourself why. Is it because of your own insecurities? Or maybe you need your boyfriend to make you feel important, so talk about ways that he could do that. There are all kinds of solutions that will avoid a fight. Remember: the jealousy doesn't come from the other person, it comes from inside you."*

DEAR ASH,

I've been with my girlfriend for eight years now and we've really lost our spark. We only ever go to the same places – gigs, or the cinema – or eat out at Nando's. What can I do to get the excitement back in our relationship?

ROSS, TYNESIDE

ASH SAYS... *"I'm a bad person to ask this because I'm actually pretty boring! Going to the same restaurant, cinema and gigs – you just described eight years of awesome (laughs)! Why don't you make a pact with each other about the element of surprise. Promise to surprise each other with something once a month. And it's always got to be something cool, like a quiet getaway or a romantic dinner or going for a picnic. Make an effort, because it's really fun to have all the extra memories."*

"REMEMBER: JEALOUSY COMES FROM INSIDE YOU"
ASH COSTELLO

DEAR ASH,

My boyfriend is off to university this summer, but I've still got another year at college to go. Should we try to stay together, despite him being at university, until I can go to the same uni and join him? Or should we cut our losses now and not waste any time?

CHLOE, SOUTHPORT

ASH SAYS... *"If you're wondering whether you should 'cut your losses', that's never a good sign! I would never think like that about someone I was really in love with. You always figure it out... always! Maybe there's a subconscious part of you that's hoping to cut your losses and be free? Maybe a long-distance relationship is not for you. But if you love them, you make it work no matter what! I find absence makes the heart grow fonder, and I think some distance can be good."*

Ash: secretly disappointed the roses weren't black

AS TOLD TO: AMIT SHARMA

FIRST DATES

WHAT COULD BE BETTER THAN A DATE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY? A BLIND DATE WITH **SABATON**'S **JOAKIM BRODÉN**, THAT'S WHAT! OUR ROVING ROMANTIC REPORTER JOINED HIM FOR DINNER. LET BATTLE COMMENCE!

HI THERE, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
"Hi, I'm Joakim from Falun, Sweden."

SWEDEN, EH – YOU MUST BE AN ABBA FAN…
"Of course – it's written into our nation's constitution! I think Benny [Andersson] and Björn [Ulvaeus] are among the best composers in our modern time."

SOUNDS LIKE YOU KNOW YOUR MUSIC. WHAT DO YOU DO?
"I'm in a heavy metal band, Sabaton. I tour the world."

SHOW-OFF. WHY ARE YOU CALLED THAT?
"That's quite a funny story, actually – though it might not make you laugh. When I joined the band in 1999, we had another name. We looked into it and realised that name was taken already, so decided that we all had to bring a suggestion for a new name. I opened my book about military history and found the word 'sabaton'."

YOU'RE RIGHT – IT DIDN'T MAKE US LAUGH. SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
"It's a medieval knight's shoe – a part of the armour."

WHERE DID THE INTEREST IN MILITARY HISTORY COME FROM, THEN?
"I used to have a healthy interest in it, but it's getting unhealthier the older I get. Early on we'd sing about anything, but when we did our debut album Primo Victoria in 2005, we wanted to sing about something more than drinking, having sex and slaying dragons."

WHOA THERE! THAT'S RACY TALK FOR THIS EARLY IN THE DATE…
"Sorry! So, to continue, we decided to do the song about the D-Day landings in Normandy, which made it more interesting to us – so we decided to do a whole album about military history."

SOUNDS TERRIFYING. IS THAT WHY YOU'RE DRESSED THE WAY YOU ARE?
"Like everything, it came naturally. We were recording a video for the title-track to our second album, Attero Dominatus. The director wanted to put us in a bunker, so we thought we'd put on camo pants and black T-shirts, and our guitarist suggested I wear something else on top (*knocks on body armour*)."

STURDY. DO YOU HAVE LESS FORMAL VERSIONS FOR WHEN YOU'RE 'ENTERTAINING'?
"I'm in full formal dress for this date, obviously, but if there was a second date then I'd be naked, as I'm Scandinavian and that's what we do."

YOU CAN KEEP YOUR TOP ON FOR NOW, TA. SO WHAT DO YOU GET UP TO WHEN YOU'RE NOT MAKING MUSIC?
"That's 95 per cent of my life, so it doesn't leave room for much else. If I want to relax away from music, I play pinball. I have a few machines of my own and have been to the Swedish championships. My best position was in the top 120-something – I'd like to get in the top 100."

GOOD, WE ONLY DATE WINNERS. WHAT DO YOU THINK IMPRESSES ROMANTIC INTERESTS MORE – BEING IN A BAND OR PLAYING PINBALL?
"(*Laughs*) I'll let you do the math on that one!"

MATHS WAS NEVER OUR STRONG POINT, BUT WE'LL GUESS THE MUSIC…
"Some people call it 'tank metal', which I don't mind. It's when it's described as 'power metal' that I mind a bit. That gives people the wrong idea. It puts the stereotype of fast double kick drums, high-pitched vocals and fast guitar melodies. 'Tank metal' is fine, though."

"IF THIS WAS A SECOND DATE, I'D BE NAKED!"
JOAKIM BRODÉN

WHEN IT COMES TO TANKS, IS SIZE OR THE WAY IT'S OPERATED MOST IMPORTANT?
"When it comes to the military, size *always* matters!"

AHEM. THAT'S A RATHER LARGE BOTTLE OF WINE, MAY WE HAVE SOME?
"Of course! (*Joakim pours a glass of red*) I had a beer while I was waiting for the table, but now I've switched to wine as I thought it would be better for a date."

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER VICES?
"I like 'snus', which is Swedish tobacco that you put under your lip. I also like to gamble. I find it strange that people will go and play the lottery everyday and think that's normal, but if they go to Vegas and play Blackjack, they're crazy and have a problem."

GUESS IT'S ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU LOSE… WHAT'S THE MOST YOU'VE LOST?
"I lost a bet so once had to walk from our hometown to our next show, in Norway, which was 544km [338 miles] away. It was really fucked-up at first, but in the end it wasn't *that* bad. Quite a few strangers gave me six-packs of beer and food."

SOUNDS LIKE A RECIPE FOR SOME SERIOUS BLISTERS. WHAT DO YOU THINK THE RECIPE FOR A GOOD DATE IS?
"The quality of the company is quite important; someone who's able to make jokes and adapt to the social situation, but be comfortable enough that we could sit there for 45 minutes without opening our mouths and it not be a problem."

WE'LL KEEP TALKING, IF YOU DON'T MIND. WHAT WOULD BE BIG TURN-OFF ON A DATE?
"I don't mind somebody that talks a lot because it shows they're enthusiastic or passionate about a subject, but if they're self-obsessed and like that *all the time* then I'd be turned off – there are some people that just don't shut the fuck up!"

HMMM, WELL, SOME PEOPLE THINK SINGERS IN BANDS CAN BE SELF-OBSESSED…
"When I'm onstage, I'm just an exaggerated version of what I'm like usually. I'm nowhere near as extroverted offstage – unless I have 15 beers. I guess I remove the unwanted qualities from my personality when I'm onstage, and reinforce the ones that are useful."

WHAT ARE THOSE UNWANTED QUALITIES THAT YOU SUPPRESSED?
"I'm reserved. Oh, and I had food poisoning recently, which meant I needed to suppress and swallow down some puke three times during a show."

THAT'S PUT US RIGHT OFF OUR STARTER!
"Sorry, sorry – I shouldn't be telling you that on a first date! Another thing that people would say is that I'm very honest. Am I too honest? Yes and no. I don't think I am, but others would say so."

LET'S FIND OUT – HOW DO YOU THINK THIS DATE IS GOING?
"Um, it's not too bad…"

WOW… WE'RE NOT SURE THIS IS GOING TO WORK OUT, Y'KNOW…
"That's okay, as I'm very dedicated to the band. In over 1,000 shows we've never missed or cancelled one – not even when I had a fever of 43 degrees and I thought I was going to shit myself when onstage."

OKAY, ENOUGH! WAITER… THE BILL, PLEASE!

LOOKING FOR LOVE: JAMES HICKIE **PHOTO:** PAUL HARRIES

RATE THE DATE

THE CHANCES OF JOAKIM WINNING OUR HEART? NOT TOO SHABBY, ACTUALLY…

GROOMING KKK

While his beard and Mohawk are as well-kempt as a retiree's allotment, Joakim would be the first to admit that his outfit – which we're both relieved and a little sad to learn isn't what he wears every day – is a little whiffy. How often does he wash it? "When I can."

OPENNESS KK

You could argue that no man wearing body armour wants someone accessing his heart, and Joakim was certainly guarded when it came to the date. He no doubt emulated his interest in military history to develop a strategy for deflecting more invasive questions.

OUTFIT KKKK

Luckily, our restaurant had a relaxed dress policy, because Joakim is a man who's more likely to wear Kevlar than a cravat. Note for future reference: camo pants may blend in with jungle terrain, but they stick out like a sore thumb next to a white tablecloth.

MANNERS KKK

While he's slow to pour forth his emotions, he's not short of a story or two relating to pouring forth his bodily fluids. That's no way to talk at the table, young man! His ever-present sunglasses meant we couldn't see his "puppy eyes" either.

KERRANG!

WATERPARKS

OTTO WOOD, AWSTEN KNIGHT & GEOFF WIGINGTON

PHOTO: GIUZZEE MARTIN

KERRANG!

Panic! at the Disco

BRENDON URIE

PHOTO: DOUGLAS SONDERS

KERRANG!
PARAMORE
HAYLEY WILLIAMS
PHOTO: DAVID McCLISTER

KERRANG!
SLEEPING WITH SIRENS
KELLIN QUINN
TELEVIS
MA
the velvet underground loaded
PHOTO: LINDSEY BYRNES

PHOTO: LINDSEY BYRNES

KERRANG!

PVRIS

LYNN GUNN

PHOTO: SARAH LOUISE BENNETT

PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

KERRANG!
HALESTORM
LZZY HALE
PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES

KERRANG!

THE PRETTY RECKLESS

TAYLOR MOMSEN

PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

CAME OUT S

AS **WAYNE'S WORLD** TURNS 25 THIS WEEK, MIKE RAMPTON – WITH THE HELP OF **MASTODON** – CELEBRATES ROCK'S GREATEST SILVER-SCREEN DUO...

Mastodon's Brann Dailor has seen Wayne's World upwards of 40 times.

"The first time I saw it, I just thought, 'Hey, that's me!'" the drummer tells Kerrang! today from behind his Garth Algar costume. "'That's me and my friends!' We were heavy metal dudes with long hair, hanging out in basements."

Brann wasn't alone in connecting with the on-screen duo of Wayne Campbell and Garth, two metal nerds broadcasting a public access cable TV show from their sofas upon the movie's release on Valentine's Day in 1992. They were first seen on Saturday Night Live, their sketches rapidly becoming so popular that megastars like Madonna would appear in them, and a film became the obvious next step.

"Before the movie came out, I used to be the guy calling up the radio and requesting Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody," remembers Brann of the song that would soundtrack the movie's infamous headbanging scenes. "They'd say no, that it was too long and too weird. Then, after Wayne's World came out, you'd hear it every day, and see the video on TV – only a new version of it, with Wayne and Garth in."

Twenty-five years after hitting the big screen, the effect of Wayne's World lives on far beyond MTV. It can still be found in tour buses, living rooms and beyond every day. The movie this week returns to select cinemas around the world. In Los Angeles, the film's anniversary has been celebrated by a real-life replica of Stan Mikita's Donuts – Wayne and Garth's hangout of choice – popping up as a pilgrimage for fans who live by catchphrases of 'Excellent!', 'Party on!', 'Schyeah!', 'Schwing!' and 'Not!'. Today, Wayne's World wrestles with This Is Spinal Tap as the ultimate collision of rock'n'roll culture and the cinema.

"It was the perfect timing for us and our friends," recalls Brann's Mastodon bandmate (and, for one day only, K!'s own Wayne) Bill Kelliher of Wayne's World's release. "We all started picking up the lingo and that gave us the ammunition to think, 'Hey, those guys are cool and nerdy, *we* can be cool and nerdy, too!'"

If Wayne's World was to change the lives of an audience that took the 95 minutes of silver-screen stupidity to their hearts, it was to have a similar effect on the career of its chief creator, too. Long before Austin Powers and Shrek, Mike Myers was making his film debut as both writer and star, and found the leap from live sketches strange – co-star Rob Lowe remembers watching him not knowing where to stand, having never been on a movie set before. Mike, in turn, was impressed that Rob knew things like what time he was meant to be on set. There were real-life parallels with the film's plot, too, in which Wayne's cable show becomes a high-budget corporate product.

Luckily for Mike, authenticity in his portrayal of Wayne Campbell was pretty easy. Not only had he been doing the character at parties since he was a teenager, he'd grown up in a small town (Scarborough, Ontario) listening to metal, so didn't have to stretch his imagination amazingly far when writing the part. "Wayne's World is the suburban adolescent North American heavy metal experience as I knew it growing up," he later said. "Wayne's World was my childhood."

Also helping with the authenticity was director Penelope Spheeris, who had recently made the legendary documentary The Decline Of Western

Stan Mikita's Donuts: excellent munchables

"A sphincter says what?"

PHOTOS: TOM BARNES, GETTY, REX

SCHWINGING

WAYNE'S WORLD AT 25!

Twenty-five years after its release, does Wayne's World still hold up? Bill Kelliher's offspring certainly think so. "My kids are 12 and 10, and about two years ago we watched it together, and they loved it," he smiles. "They ended up being Wayne and Garth for Hallowe'en that year!"

The movie's influence continues to be felt, even from the other side of the fan/band divide our Mastodon pair now inhabit. "We've had fans do the 'We're not worthy' thing," continues Bill, referencing a scene where the main characters kneel and bow before Alice Cooper. "We're like, 'Ha, yeah, Wayne's World, *you're worthy*.'"

"'Now please stand up, it's weird,'" laughs Brann. "Being in a band, you'll occasionally have these moments that feel familiar, and you realise you're living Wayne's World!"

Scenes from the film are played out in real life daily. "There's a bit where they're trying to get backstage, and say to the guy barring them, 'Our girlfriends are in there,'" says Bill. "They're told, 'A lot of people's girlfriends are back there.' I've seen that happen many times on tour buses. There's a lot of truth in that film!"

It's that truth, that authenticity and that love for its subject matter that has seen Wayne's World stand the test of time. Well, it's those… and the ridiculously infectious jokes, of course.

"I hear my kids say 'Not!' once in a while," beams Bill. "'Great job, Dad… *Not!*' I have myself a private celebration when that happens."

In the words of Wayne and Garth themselves: party on, Bill.

"WAYNE'S WORLD MADE US THINK WE COULD BE COOL AND NERDY"
BILL KELLIHER

Civilization Part II: The Metal Years, so brought expert knowledge of the scene and could ensure that important details like headbanging were taken seriously. Both Mike and Dana Carvey (Garth) were left with crippling neck pain after doing 10-plus takes of the Bohemian Rhapsody sequence. Penelope had wanted to use a song by then-biggest-band-in-the-world Guns N' Roses, but Mike insisted on Queen ("Growing up, I was 'Galileo' three of five," he said. "If someone took someone else's 'Galileo', a fight would ensue."). Mike saw nothing funny about the headbanging part, while Penelope insisted it was essential.

Rock royalty also made an appearance, with Alice Cooper's incredible cameo shattering every preconception audiences might have had about rock musicians – he's seen discussing the etymology of 'Milwaukee' with his band. "I'm stuck with that scene forever!" he tells Kerrang!.

"Whenever I go to an airport all I get is, 'We're not worthy!', and I try to pretend it hasn't happened 200 times already!"

The film was shot in just 32 days, with the atmosphere on the set flip-flopping between upbeat and incredibly tense. Long shooting days and power struggles meant, on occasion, everyone was on a knife-edge. The relationship between Mike and Penelope became fractured; on-set meltdowns were reportedly common. But there were good times, too – a scene where Wayne and Garth are lying on a car bonnet and Wayne laughs his head off over a joke about Bugs Bunny was a genuine reaction from Mike to an ad-lib from Dana Carvey. It's one of the most joyful moments in a movie full of them – two best friends, who happen to be metalheads, having the time of their lives

Bill Kelliher (left) and Brann Dailor: super-prepared for Hallowe'en this year

WAYNE'S WORLD 3?

WE CAN BUT DREAM. DON'T GO HOLDING YOUR BREATH OVER A WAYNE AND GARTH COMEBACK...

A quarter of a century has passed since the first movie. A sequel followed a year later, minus director Penelope Spheeris due to a falling-out with Mike Myers (the pair have since reconciled). While it lacks some of the magic of the first film, it does feature Aerosmith, a never-smoother Christopher Walken and the greatest roadie ever portrayed on film. But what are the chances of a third instalment? Mike Myers and Dana Carvey have revived the sketch on Saturday Night Live a few times, most recently in 2015 for the show's 40th anniversary, and their comic chemistry is as strong as ever. Rumours have long existed that Mike Myers is sitting on a script for a third film, and he and Dana are always happy to fuel people's imaginations about what that might look like, given that Dana is now in his 60s, Mike's hair is silver, and the rock scene they so lovingly joked with both looks and sounds very different to that of 1992. Still, in an interview last year, Dana did a pitch-perfect, 'Wayne! My prostate's enlarged!', so we can but dream…

Wayne and Garth reunite on SNL in 2015

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K! GOES BEHIND CLOSED DOORS AS **A DAY TO REMEMBER**'S BAD VIBRATIONS TOUR SLAYS THE UK – WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THEIR FRIENDS IN **NEW FOUND GLORY**, **NECK DEEP** AND **MOOSE BLOOD**...

WORDS: SAM COARE, DAN SLESSOR **PHOTOS:** ADAM ELMAKIAS, PAUL HARRIES, GOBINDER JHITTA, TOM MARTIN

STAGE DANGER

Jeremy McKinnon (A Day To Remember): "This was a spur-of-the-moment thing when we originally did it, and now it's a part of The Plot To Bomb The Panhandle every night! I know that one day it'll go horribly wrong, but it hasn't happened yet. We didn't break out too many stunts over the course of the tour, and managed to avoid any major onstage fails – however, there was one night I kept thinking we were further along in the set list than we were. I'd do a big, long intro for some soft song... and then we'd play Bad Vibrations, so I looked *really* stupid!"

LEARNING FROM THE BEST

Eddy Brewerton (Moose Blood): "This tour has given us opportunities we never thought we'd have. Playing these venues and seeing what has gone into the production has been a real eye-opener. We find ourselves learning from bands we tour with all the time – I think it makes us realise that we may never get close to doing a tour of this magnitude off our own backs. It makes us even more grateful to be here. It's been a real honour to be a part of it."

THE BIG LEAGUES

Eddy Brewerton: "We could never have imagined playing a tour of this size – not at all! We can't thank the ADTR boys enough. We try to play the same, regardless of the venue we're in. Some shows and places are obviously more nerve-wracking and intimidating, but I think our connection with an audience comes from being natural in the way you come across and by keeping things modest."

NOPE, NO IDEA

Jeremy McKinnon: "The guys from Drop Dead brought us a bunch of clothes, and in with them was this mask, so Josh [Woodard, bass] had a good time with it! He has a lot of different personalities! There was plenty of silliness going on backstage. We're always cracking jokes and doing stupid stuff – but that doesn't always mean *other people* find us funny!"

THE LONG ROAD TO WEMBLEY

Jordan Pundik (New Found Glory): "Even after 20 years we still get to cross stuff off the list of things we've wanted to do in our career. Like playing Wembley Arena! I always joke that it doesn't feel like we've been doing this 20 years. We started when we were 16 and 17, so we're still young when you think about the amount of time we've been a band compared to our ages. I think what keeps us relevant is we always try to challenge ourselves when making records. We try to write what's real, and I think people relate to that."

LIGHT 'EM UP

Matt West (Neck Deep): "This is from A Part Of Me. It's always a good point for gauging how well the set's going, as people who might not be bopping around for the whole thing might throw their phone up in the air instead. It's always mad seeing so many people singing along."

TOUR FUEL

Jeremy McKinnon: "For some reason, none of us managed to adjust to the time zone change, which meant we tended to get up around 3pm. So, the dinner that's cooked at the venue was our lunch – and then we tried to get as much Nando's and Wagamama as we could after the show every night! Everyone really wanted to be on their A-game, so we tried to keep the partying to a minimum! Regardless, I definitely feel like I made some new friends in Moose Blood. Their bass player [Kyle Todd] also told me he has paid to see A Day To Remember more than any other band, and that blew me away!"

NEMO: FINALLY FOUND

Jeremy McKinnon: "We'd requested beach balls for our show, and the production company had a ton of inflatable animals they gave us for free. As you can see, we even *found Nemo!* It was great getting to bring such a big production out with us, and standing on those big stages every night really was crazy. The crowds in Glasgow and Birmingham were particularly *insane*. We've never seen the crowds go off like that in those cities before!"

FAMOUS FRIENDS

Jeremy McKinnon: "Kelly Osbourne is friends with someone on our crew and she came along to one of the shows – and since we're trying to get drafted for [reality TV competition] Project Runway [on which Kelly is a judge], that was a good thing! She was nice, she said she had never heard of us before but that the show was really great, and she congratulated us on playing Wembley, and that was cool. We wish we could have caught up with more friends, but with our body clocks so messed up we didn't have much time to do anything away from shows!"

TIME OF YOUR LIFE

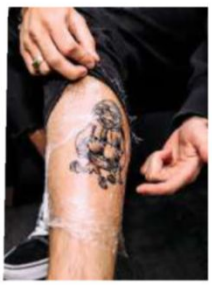
Matt West: "It was a blast touring with everyone. We played a bunch of shows with Moose Blood over the summer at festivals and stuff, so it's nice to tour with them properly. It's been an honour to tour with NFG as well – Neck Deep would not be a band if it weren't for them – and it's pretty cool to become friends with a band that you've looked up to for years. Then, of course, getting to see ADTR every night is amazing, as their show is crazy! It's made me all the more excited to go into the studio and record our new album!"

HONEY OVERDOSE

Jordan Pundik: "I love raw honey! It feels so good after walking around in the cold with a dry throat. I also drink throat-health teas, too. I'll try all the voodoo to keep my voice good! I just try to keep my voice not getting dried out too much. Keeping in shape is one of those tricky things. Bouncing around the stage for an hour-and-a-half is the best cardio workout ever!"

COMMEMORATIVE INK

Sam Bowden (Neck Deep): "As you can see here, this is E.T. – the scene where he's in the kitchen exploring and stumbles upon these beers and ends up getting drunk. It's up there with my favourite films, and I recently went to see it at the Royal Albert Hall with a full orchestra, which was an amazing experience. So I just went ahead and got a tattoo!"



ADTR & MOOSE BLOOD PLAY DOWNLOAD 2017. NECK DEEP PLAY SLAM DUNK 2017. NFG TOUR THE UK IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER – SEE THE GIG GUIDE

LIVES

RATINGS

KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

STAR SHOUT!

TAYLOR MOMSEN

(THE PRETTY RECKLESS, VOCALS)

WAS THAT A GOOD WAY TO FINISH UP THIS UK JAUNT?
"It was a very, very good show. It was the hottest of the tour, temperature-wise, which was really surprising because I've been freezing all day. But the crowd was fantastic, it was a great way to end this run, and Manchester's always a highlight."

YOU HAD A GO AT A MANCUNIAN ACCENT FOR A MINUTE, DIDN'TYOU?
"I did and it was terrible. Ben [Phillips, guitar] does a much better one. Mine is picked up from watching Oasis interviews – 'How Not To Talk To The Press' by [Oasis frontgob] Liam Gallagher. I said that Manchester is one of my favourite places to play, and I actually don't say that wherever we go. We genuinely love it here and can't wait to come back."

Despite being onstage, Taylor just couldn't hold off getting that earwax with a Q-tip a minute longer

THE PRETTY RECKLESS

PLUS: THE CRUEL KNIVES

O2 RITZ MANCHESTER. 24.01.17

KKKK

RECKLESS AND WILD! TAY-MO AND CO. BRING THEIR ENORMOUS UK TOUR TO A SWAGGERING CLOSE IN MANCHESTER

WORDS: PAUL TRAVERS **PHOTOS:** ANDY GALLAGHER

MANY GREAT things have started with the tolling of a bell. There's AC/DC's Hells Bells for a start. Black Sabbath's eponymous album, and therefore all of heavy metal. The Undertaker's WWE appearances. The Pretty Reckless might not be *quite* so epochal just yet, but they know a classic move when they throw one, and their own take on hip-shaking and heart-melting hard-rock is ushered in with a sonorous clang, as a tolling bell precedes the introduction of Follow Me Down. And from then on, the bells don't end.

Openers The Cruel Knives were formed on the tolling of a metaphorical bell; one that rang for the end of Mancunian rock beasts Heaven's Basement. The new outfit features former HB men Sid Glover and Rob Ellershaw and, while clean-cut vocalist and new recruit Tom Harris might look like he's wandered into the wrong band by mistake, he has a huge vocal presence. The Cruel Knives rise from the ashes of that burned-out, abandoned basement like a leather-clad phoenix with a penchant for Led Zep-styled blues-rock and huge anthemic riff-a-thons.

The Pretty Reckless are also more than familiar with the power of the riff, and guitarist Ben Phillips is an integral cog in the machine. That's not to say that Taylor Momsen is not the main focal point, of course. She has a great voice – powerful and versatile but with a rasping rock'n'roll edge – and she also has that essential rockstar presence as she stomps around in her leather coat. But if she's the general, that band around her, cranking out the noise and turning it all the way to 11, are the noisy, crushing tank division.

It's not all about maximum overdrive, although the likes of Oh My God and Living In The Storm do kick down the door in a flurry of knuckle-bruising riffs and beats. There's also the melodic mid-paced swagger of Light Me Up and the stadium-sized hooks of Heaven Knows, sung back by the entire crowd in unison. There's the brooding atmospherics of Sweet Things and Hangman, and the sleazy swagger of My Medicine and Makes Me Wanna Die. Taylor's attempt at a Mancunian accent is crap, but it's righted by a drum solo that *doesn't* suck embedded into rampant closer Fucked Up World.

The Pretty Reckless have grown from a star vehicle into a real and increasingly multifaceted band. They're also quite fantastic – and you can let the bells ring out for that.

Taylor's new microphone-hand proved very useful

Aww, look, they still really love each other. What a nice hug

STAR SHOUT!

BEN WEINMAN

(THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN, GUITAR)

HOW WAS THE GIG? WAS THERE AN EXTRA WEIGHT TO THESE SHOWS?

"It's a *very* hard question… We're in the first week of seven weeks straight of touring; we're in the grind and we don't have the last show in sight yet. When you have so much ahead of you still, it's hard to remember to think, 'Oh, I may never play this city *again*.'"

DID YOU PLAN TO END WITH THE NIN COVER?

"We had *no* idea we were going to do it! Billy [Rymer, drummer] started playing a beat that sounded like it, Greg started singing a line, and we all just said, 'Let's fucking play!'"

THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN

PLUS: HO99O9, PRIMITIVE WEAPONS

O2 FORUM KENTISH TOWN, LONDON. 25.01.17

KKKKK

MATHCORE MAVERICKS SAY A MAD GOODBYE TO LONDON

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE **PHOTOS:** CHRIS CASEY

"YOU KNOW who we are," says The Dillinger Escape Plan frontman Greg Puciato, sporting a black eye and forgoing formalities. This isn't hello, it's goodbye to one of music's most confounding yet astounding bands. With the New Jersey five-piece starting towards the point of 'permanent hiatus', this is their last London gig *ever* – and in a case of going out on top, the biggest headline show they've played here. Naturally, it's a riot.

They share the occasion with Primitive Weapons, whose name is apt considering the New York quartet are at their best when at their bluntest. "The world is what you make it," says frontman David Castillo introducing stomper Ashes Or Paradise. "Bang your heads, kids," guitarist Arthur Shepherd translates to a crowd he decides need more punch than preaching.

It's hard to explain quite what you're given by Ho99o9 (that's Horror for the uninitiated). Are they hip-rock? Riff-hop? Whatever it is, the coupling of barked rapping with videos of disease, decapitation and despair ensures a brutalising experience whether you dig them or not.

Captivating and bewildering audiences has been the headliners' MO since they formed in 1997. Tonight, despite the swansong context, Dillinger opt to give final album Dissociation its due reverence, rather than deliver a backward-looking retrospective. The fact Limerant Death, Symptom Of Terminal Illness, Surrogate and Nothing To Forget are among tonight's searing highlights reinforces the idea of the band quitting while artistically ahead. And with Greg and guitarist Ben Weinman going bananas and leaping into the crowd off the PA, they're as wild and violent as ever.

An unplanned cover of Nine Inch Nails' Wish brings the curtain down one last time; a reminder that The Dillinger Escape Plan never do what's expected – often to great acclaim. Catch them at Download or forever kick yourself for missing this most perfect of bands.

With the band splitting, Ben was already selling his old gear

Ho99o9, also available to play the world's most budget Spider-Man at short notice

BLACK PEAKS

PLUS: TIGERCUB, EMPLOYED TO SERVE

THE DOME, LONDON. 26.01.17

KKKKK

BRIGHTON METAL MAGICIANS PLAY THE GIG OF THEIR LIVES

THERE IS a sound that emanates when Black Peaks frontman Will Gardner opens his mouth. A sound as if bats roost inside his lungs, which when awoken give a screech that is truly terrifying, and utterly enthralling. As the band hit their biggest stages to date and conjure the tempestuous complexities of debut album Statues in full, it is that voice at the centre of this skewered hurricane that shakes tonight's crowd to its core.

Warming them up like a napalm-charged flamethrower, Employed To Serve dish out their ballistic grindcore with frantic energy usually reserved for mechanical bulls. Tigercub, meanwhile, inhabit a darkly sweet spot between pop and sludge, as irresistible tunes dripping in tar spread across the room in a haze.

The atmosphere only thickens as Black Peaks crash into Glass Built Castles, the loyal throng throwing themselves along with the band into Statues' epic expanses. Their almost religious fervour propels Set In Stone to rollicking heights and drags Drones through deep lows. The band feed off and amplify this energy, with Will acting as a lightning rod, arms spread as if he were about to levitate. And hearing the ebb and flow of this monumental work in its entirety, the pulse of ingenuity that courses through each spiralling bass groove and percussive breakdown reveals a visionary band that can seemingly do anything.

"This has been the show of our lives," announces Will as To Take The First Turn's final notes ring out. But an encore debut of new song Hope – eerie guitar drones giving way to roiling waves of distortion – hints at new horizons to explore and even bigger stages to dominate.

Will regretted trying to take a bite out of his microphone

STAR SHOUT!

WILL GARDNER

(BLACK PEAKS, VOCALS)

THAT WAS PRETTY SPECIAL, RIGHT?

"It was totally mesmerising! Playing the whole album has felt like an extension of our hometown show last December. I was smiling for the whole thing and kept having to rein it in because there are serious bits with screaming (*laughs*). It's hard to calm down with an audience like tonight's, though."

WHERE THE HELL DID YOU PULL THAT NEW SONG FROM?

"You liked that? People were still making loads of noise so we decided that on the spot. It's weird to end with a new song, but fuck it! We're going away to finish writing a new album in March, so why not give people a taste of what we're going to do next?"

WORDS: JAMES MACKINNON PHOTOS: CHRIS CASEY

DROPKICK MURPHYS

PLUS: SLAPSHOT, SKINNY LISTER

02 ACADEMY BRIXTON, LONDON. 27.01.17

KKK

BOOZY, BAGPIPE-Y BOSTON CELT-PUNKS FOLK THINGS UP IN THE CAPITAL

BELTING OUT songs about the importance of friends and family for more than 20 years has meant Dropkick Murphys gigs now feel like a party. It also means the feel-good folk-punk of openers Skinny Lister and the snapping, old-school hardcore of Slapshot are met with polite indifference by tonight's sold-out, partisan crowd. When the mass of bodies dotted with flat caps, green shirts and one guy in a Korn T-shirt who must really like bagpipes is bathed in emerald light before the headliners take the stage, however, it's all most people can do to keep a steady hold of the pint they're holding in each hand. While songs from new album 11 Short Stories Of Pain & Glory might bookend tonight's set, people are here for the classics. It takes a cover of a standard popularised by The Pogues (The Wild Rover), Rose Tattoo and Out Of Our Heads to generate responses that match the Dropkicks' showmanship. Live, they perform as a seven-piece, filling Brixton's wide, deep stage on two levels and in front a flurry of different backdrops, but it's impossible not to notice the slumps caused by their forays into schmaltzy, acoustic numbers. Their set peaks before the encore with I'm Shipping Up To Boston, but it doesn't matter. They're the only band on the planet who can generate this much joy singing a song about a wooden leg.

ALISTAIR LAWRENCE

CONAN

PLUS: PUPPY, WATCHCRIES

ELECTROWERKZ, LONDON. 26.01.17

KKKK

UNDERGROUND DOOM METAL HEROES CELEBRATE MILESTONE IN A GLOOMY LONDON

IF YOU'VE ever been to Electrowerkz in London, you'll know it's not exactly The O2. So dark you'll wonder if you've accidentally slipped into the furthest possible reach of space from the sun, the cold concrete room that houses the venue part of this labyrinthine club isn't the most obvious place to fully understand a band. But when Brit doom warriors Conan are in town, it's a match made in the fiery depths of Hell. Tonight marks 10 years since they recorded their first demo, and as the hooded trio take to the stage, the sense of occasion lingers heavy in the air. Getting the birthday party started, openers Watchcries' mysterious metal is a well-organised clatter of chaotic noise. However, it's the super-cool Puppy who impress with their scintillating, grunge-inspired fuzz that nearly steals the spotlight from right underneath the noses of tonight's headliners. But like the great warriors of their namesake, Conan really don't do defeat. The likes of Gravity Chasm see them swing their axes right towards your head in a blow that is both devastating and entrancing, and the supersonic fuzz reverberating from the stage could rip your scalp from the top of your head. But that's no surprise given that guitarist Jon Davis and bassist Chris Fielding are using four times as many amps as most bands. Each of the enormous riffs shake not just your eardrums, but vibrate through your very bones, leaving you deafened and dizzy. Here's to another decade, chaps, although we'll probably be deaf by the time your twentieth birthday comes around.

JAMES HINGLE

REVIEWS

RATINGS
KKKKK = CLASSIC
KKKK = EXCELLENT
KKK = GOOD
KK = AVERAGE
K = POOR

VANT

DUMB BLOOD *(PARLOPHONE)*

KKKK

BEHOLD! RISING BRIT STARS PRESENT THOUGHT-PROVOKING ROCK FOR OUR PRECARIOUS TIMES

AN IRON fist in a velvet glove refers to an individual whose gentle demeanour masks an uncompromising drive. London-based quartet VANT are the musical equivalent, with a better world being the goal they're doggedly striving towards. Debut album Dumb Blood is the soundtrack to a revolution that has its work cut out, though it's one that subverts via sonic seduction rather than musical barricade burning.

When K! recently asked the band's lynchpin Mattie Vant about his songwriting, he suggested that while nothing excites him more than "creating something people connect with on a primordial level", it's a bonus if hungover gig-goers wake up "wondering about a topic I was singing about". Opening track The Answer implements that double-threat approach from the get-go. Mattie, a self-confessed fan of once red-hot Aussies The Vines, emulates their cocktail of surf-rock shine and grunge groove to decry Western intervention in Syria. Meanwhile, Put Down Your Gun utilises the Pixies' quiet-loud-quiet dynamic to examine the perpetuation of violence caused by the unlawful police shootings of black people in America.

If that makes Dumb Blood sound preachy or condescending, it's not. While these tunes are consistent, musically, in being earworms of a particularly invasive variety, the socio-political observations of the lyrics arrive with varying degrees of subtlety. Some, like Lampoon ('*Everything is dumb with this generation*') are direct. Others, like Headed For The Sun ('*Deaf daydreamer open up your pretty eyes*'), are metaphorical and need unlocking. Meanwhile, Parking Lot's commentary on the respecting of sexual boundaries includes a mixture of both.

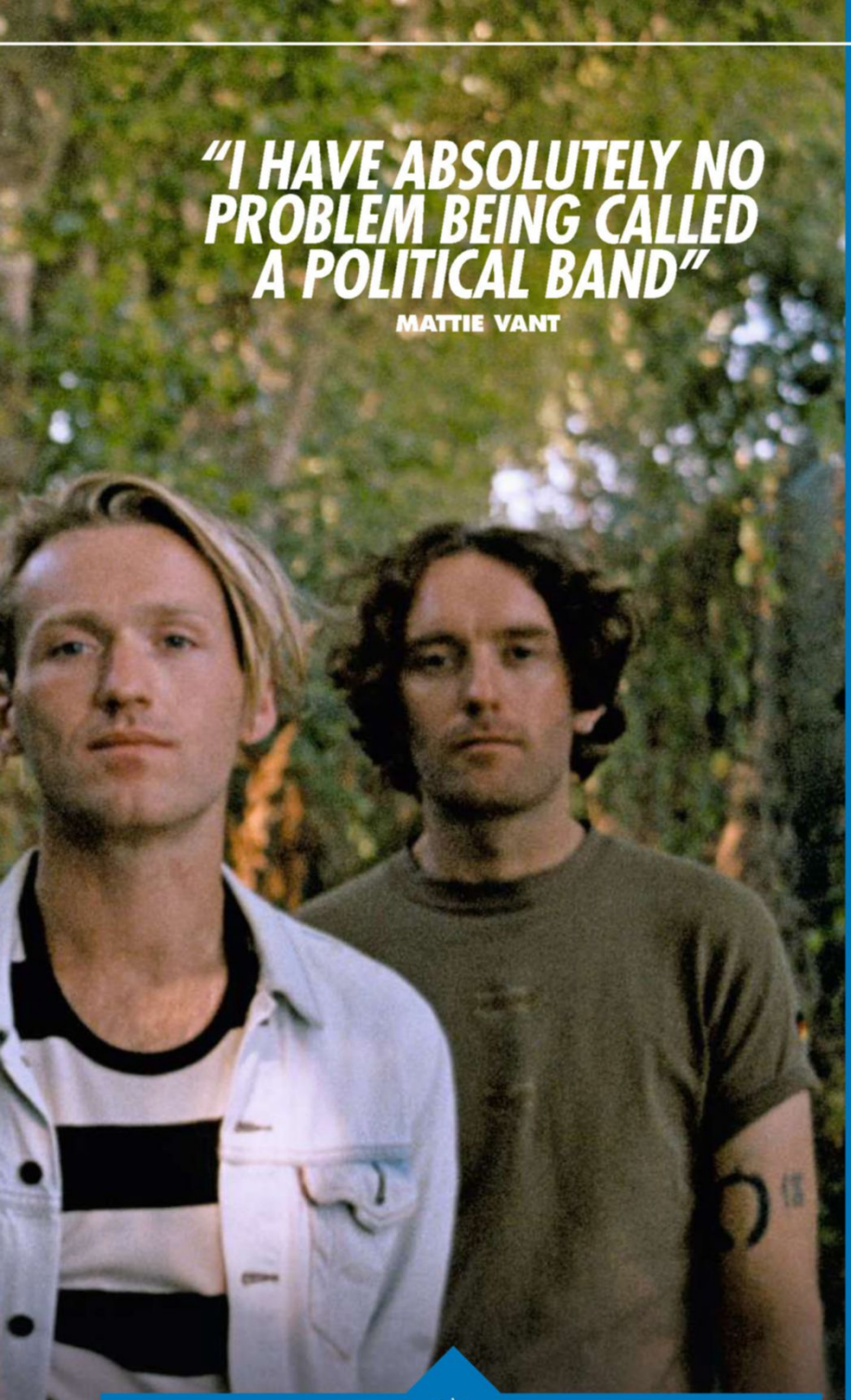
This is an important record that has something to say at a time it needs saying. For example, considering that British Prime Minister Theresa May is buddying up with a U.S. president that seems to be burying the subject of climate change, Peace & Love's yearning for a return to the environmental focus of the flower power generation has relevance. Similarly, while that same president suggested American citizens are "protected by God" during his inaugural speech, it's important to have songs like I Don't Believe In God. A raucous anthem about atheism, it celebrates the beauty of living a good, full life knowing that you only get one go around. Ironically, it's so catchy it'll demand countless repeated spins.

VANT aren't a punk band, but in terms of spirit, this may be the most punk record of 2017: possessing brains, balls and bags of tunes.

DOWNLOAD: Lampoon, Fly-By Alien.
FOR FANS OF: The Xcerts, Wolf Alice.
JAMES HICKIE

"I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM BEING CALLED A POLITICAL BAND"

MATTIE VANT



THE INSIDER
MATTIE VANT
(VOCALS/GUITAR)

WHEN DID YOU START WRITING THESE POLITICALLY AND SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS SONGS, MATTIE?
"About four years ago I was at a point where I felt music had lost meaning, because I was writing about self-indulgent things. I felt like I needed to start doing something meaningful, whether that was charity work, volunteering or studying. Then, by chance, I wrote Headed For The Sun, which was not only true to the way I write musically, it also had all these underlying themes about how I view society."

WOULD YOU DESCRIBE VANT AS A POLITICAL BAND, THEN?
"I'd have absolutely no problem with anyone calling us a political band. We wear our heart on our sleeve in that respect. There isn't a formula to what we do, but there is a sense of necessity when it comes to getting topics into songs. If something really impassions me, I try to find a way to include it in a song. When that song is out there, it forces people to talk about them. That's the power of music: you can be confrontational with the listener."

WOULD IT BOTHER YOU IF LISTENERS CONNECTED WITH YOUR SONGS MUSICALLY, BUT DIDN'T APPRECIATE WHAT THE SONGS WERE ABOUT?
"Not at all. When I was growing up, I liked a lot of artists that I now listen back to and realise had a lot of political content. In a way, it probably brainwashed me and made me conscious of these subjects without me realising it."

TRACK BY TRACK

ZEAL & ARDOR

DEVIL IS FINE *(MVKA)*

KKKK

BLACK METAL'S NEW REVOLUTIONARY REIMAGINES SLAVERY AS THE DEVIL'S WORK

1 *DEVIL IS FINE*
The rattle of a slave chain. The beat of a tribal drum. Piano ivories pressed to a melancholic downbeat. And, over such rudimentary instrumentation, a chorus of tortured, defiant exaltation. Swiss-American soundsmith Manuel Gagneux's determination to marry black metal's frostbitten nihilism to black American slave music should've been artistic folly. This reinvented field workers' chant, however – directed not to angels above, but to demons below – suggests he's tapped into something special…

2 *IN ASHES*
A thrust into more unsettlingly Satanic territory nails home the point, as mesmeric spiritualist chants brim with occult atmosphere. Scourging blastbeats and squalling guitars just add to it.

3 *SACRILEGIUM I*
An era-shifting detour into juddering hip-hop electronica. It's dizzyingly disorientating.

4 *COME ON DOWN*
Quickly back to slow-burn Delta blues – driven by icy blasts and razorblade guitars, obvs. Spine-tingling stuff, this.

5 *CHILDREN'S SUMMON*
Oh, a haunting music-box melody? Of course! It erupts into the album's grandest Devil's hymn.

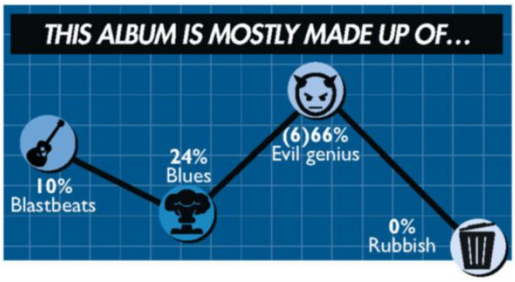
6 *SACRILEGIUM II*
Interlude number two. All tinkling simplicity and minimalist menace, this is like a horror soundtrack. Black metal was never this creepy.

7 *BLOOD IN THE RIVER*
'A good God is a dead one! A good lord is a dark one!' Soul-shuddering instrumental thunder emphasises those lyrics' unequivocal evil.

8 *WHAT IS A KILLER LIKE YOU GONNA DO HERE?*
Think you've got DIF's formula figured? Think again. A rambunctious double bass twists things into jazzy, Bayou Blues territory. Think Nick Cave covered by Lucifer himself. Oooooh.

9 *SACRILEGIUM III*
Blasphemy. Damnation. Deliverance. There's a sense of completion, of hard-earned release in the ecstasy of this synthy outro. This isn't what black metal was meant to sound like, but the mix of brutality and the genuine evil of slavery's echoes are a surprisingly perfect match.

THIS ALBUM IS MOSTLY MADE UP OF…



WORDS: SAM LAW

BLANKET

OUR BRIEF ENCOUNTERS *(SELF-RELEASE)*

KK

GENTLE POST-ROCKERS LULL YOU INTO A MOSTLY JUSTIFIED SENSE OF SECURITY

UNTIL NOW, the dubious honour of having the most soporific band name in rock has belonged to doom behemoths Sleep. Fittingly, this five-track introduction to Blanket moves with a meditating monk's lack of urgency. It's pretty, though – an emotional, self-indulgent interlude featuring quiet bits that are just as striking as the loud bits. Like a less fevered Lonely The Brave, the Blackpool quartet shape heart-rending soundscapes. Unlike that band, they don't then hit you with sharp things. Layered guitars shimmer, and vocals whisper. It's never better than on Starlight Filled Our Minds, for which a suitably mesmeric video has been released. On the downside, after Blanket repeat opener Acacia's formula throughout, you wonder if they have the fibre to cut any different cloth.

DOWNLOAD: To The Skies.

FOR FANS OF: Anathema, Porcupine Tree.

STEVE BEEBEE

FIRST BLOOD

RULES *(PURE NOISE)*

KKK

SAN FRANCISCO METALCORE RAGERS BRING BEATDOWNS AND BRO-DOWNS

WHEN YOU initially scan these song titles, you'll probably think, 'Are they havin' a laugh?' There's Fuck The Rules, These Are The Rules and Rules Meant To Be Broken, all followed by nine 'Rules Of…' titles. Call it bro-core, brotopia, bromageddon, whatever you will, at least it's served somewhat tongue-in-che… oh wait, they're not joking. Though gang vocals over beatdown after beatdown may begin to feel tedious, Rules is surprisingly good in places – and perhaps deserves a bit more credit than the LOLzy tracklisting and kindergarten lyrics may suggest (*'Don't tell me just get over your dreams / Don't tell me that's life… that's life!'*). If you've been waiting for hardcore's unintentional answer to Steel Panther, First Blood could very well be it.

DOWNLOAD: Rules Of Justice.

FOR FANS OF: Hatebreed, THE HELL.

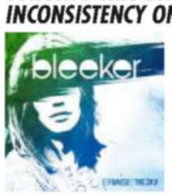
AMIT SHARMA

BLEEKER

ERASE YOU *(FIVE SEVEN)*

KKK

TORONTO TRIO BATTLE WITH EXTREME INCONSISTENCY ON LATEST FULL-LENGTH



VARIETY IS the spice of life, or so they say. Canadian rockers Bleeker have taken this mantra to heart on their new album, Erase You. Just as opener Highway packs an unadulterated pop-rock punch, Free throws a healthy dose of sleazy blues-rock right into the fold. This inconsistency continues as the 11 tracks unfold, some considerably better than others. The aptly-titled Radio Radio is a forgettable slice of airwaves-ready pop-punk, while Close My Eyes places them firmly in clichéd rock balladry territory. Yet Bleeker actually come into their own when they fully unleash their strut-heavy theatrical cock-rock. In these moments they confidently stride forward, driven by an unreserved bravado. Erase You is unapologetically melodramatic and boisterous, despite its ever-present identity crises. It's just a shame that the more watered-down moments haven't been, well, erased.

DOWNLOAD: Free.

FOR FANS OF: Buckcherry, Highly Suspect.

BEN TIPPLE

LYRIC OF THE WEEK

'I, I smell a rat!' Just in from the Department of Ratology at Oxford: rat flatulence is up an enormous 2,000 per cent. And who's bringing this to the world's attention? Only Mike Duce. Mike, continue to monitor those rat farts, for the good of us all.

BAND: Lower Than Atlantis

SONG: Dumb

ALBUM: Safe In Sound

SLEEVE OF THE WEEK

Feck yeah – the new Decade album! Alt. rock a-go-go and… Bunch of flowers? What? Is Pleasantries the ideal gift for Mother's Day? Is that what you're saying about your new album, Decade? IS IT?! Is it possible to buy the flowers separately, and keep the CD for ourselves?

VIDEO OF THE WEEK

ROYAL, WATERPARKS

Lotta dancing going on here. Which is weird, because you'd think with a song called Royal, Waterparks would have lorded it around in big crowns. Open goal, lads. Missed.

HOMEBOUND

THE MOULD YOU BUILD YOURSELF AROUND *(RUDE)*

KKKK

UK POP-PUNK HOPEFULS CONTINUE THEIR SUGAR RUSH ON SOLID THIRD EP

WITH NECK Deep, As It Is and WSTR proving our grey skies belie sunny ambitions to rival our American cousins, there's never been a better time to be a British pop-punk band. Being a genre known for generic traits, however, any new purveyors bouncing out of the woodwork better have authenticity or originality on their side. Farnham quartet Homebound possess more of the former than the latter on this five-track EP. While opener Headspace captures frontman Charlie Boughton weathering the aftershocks of a break-up, his bruised vocals and the incessant kick-drum make more of a dent than route one lyrics like '*Your future was never with me*'. More rousing rather than revelatory, but Homebound will be hitting home runs soon enough.

DOWNLOAD: Headspace, Pensive.

FOR FANS OF: As It Is, Neck Deep.

JAMES HICKIE

OVERKILL

THE GRINDING WHEEL *(NUCLEAR BLAST)*

KKK

BOBBY BLITZ'S WRECKING CREW RETURN, AGED BUT STILL THRASHING LIKE MANIACS

AFTER LAST year's thrash offerings from Testament and Metallica, it's time for New Jersey legends Overkill to step up to the plate. With a career hurtling toward the 40-year mark, you'd expect their fire to be dwindling, but the inferno still rages here. Overkill's inherent rock'n'roll swagger steers this riffy ship through an hour of heavyweight shredding, tribal drums and Bobby Blitz wailing like the Bon Scott of thrash metal. Goddamn Trouble rockets along like a nitrous-powered wildebeest, while defiant anthem The Long Road proves that there's a mighty monster lurking within the East Coast five-piece. And while the album does lose focus at times, loosening its initial invigorating grip, the jovial bounce of Let's All Go To Hades is a surefire live hit when you've had a few pints.

DOWNLOAD: Goddamn Trouble.

FOR FANS OF: Metallica, Slayer.

LUKE MORTON

T.S.O.L.

THE TRIGGER COMPLEX *(RISE)*

KK

AMERICAN PUNK-ROCK'N'ROLLERS RELEASE DISAPPOINTING 11TH STUDIO ALBUM

FOR A band who next year celebrate their 40th anniversary, one might expect T.S.O.L. to be more widely-recognised than they are. A pivotal presence in the early-ish days of LA punk, the band's career trajectory follows a path familiar to many from this scene: a first act of some brilliance, a second of musical confusion, and a third of dogged persistence. One of the reasons T.S.O.L. are among the more obscure of the remaining Southern Californian groups of their type (more obscure than Social Distortion and Bad Religion, certainly) is because T.S.O.L. these days aren't that good. And here, aside from brief moments in songs such as Satellites and Why Can't We Do It Again, the best thing about The Trigger Complex is its title.

DOWNLOAD: I Wanted To See You.

FOR FANS OF: Social Distortion, AFI.

IAN WINWOOD

WHEN THEY first emerged from Brazil in the mid-'80s, Sepultura quickly established themselves as one of the heaviest, most aggressive bands on the planet. The only band who could legitimately pose a threat to Slayer, they had a huge hand in redefining just how much of a nuclear force metal could be. Here, on **THE ROADRUNNER ALBUMS 1985 – 1996**, you realise the sheer force of Seps' attack hasn't aged one bit in the 21 years since talismanic frontman Max Cavalera left

ON THE STEREO

1 BODY COUNT – NO LIVES MATTER
FUCK! It's Ice-T and his crew, back to sort out the absolute mess the world's in via flexing rap-metal. We're all saved!

2 MASTODON – SULTAN'S CURSE
Brent Hinds has gone online saying he did his guitar parts for this on the moon. We believe him.

3 HELLYEAH – DON'T TRY
Oh look at that, Hellyeah have a load of fat riffs and barbecue-shaking grooves.

4 MOTIONLESS IN WHITE – ETERNALLY YOURS
Hello, Chris Motionless, we meet again. Still goth, yeah? Yeah. Cool.

5 CIRCA WAVES – FIRE THAT BURNS
An emo hit about sacking Mr. Burns. How lovely.

XANDRIA
THEATER OF DIMENSIONS *(NAPALM)*

KKK

GERMAN METALLERS START AT EPIC THEN RAMP THINGS UP A BIT

IF THERE'S one subgenre that's as overly theatrical as Matt Bellamy carving a scale model of St Paul's Cathedral out of ham, it's symphonic metal. And even within this port of the pompous, Xandria stand out like a dandy's flounces at a toner sales convention. Singer Dianne van Giersbergen deploys her full operatic warble, and the backing vocals aren't so much gang chants as chorus lines. There's a sprinkling of electronica and folk, but mostly they craft huge power-metal epics. Queen Of Hearts Reborn starts like the theme from The Deer Hunter but ends more like a dragon slayer, while the title-track is a huge proggy psychodrama. Sometimes less is more, but in this case bigger is best.

DOWNLOAD: Call Of Destiny, Theater Of Dimensions.

FOR FANS OF: Within Temptation, Delain.

PAUL TRAVERS

BEACH SLANG
HERE, I MADE THIS FOR YOU *(BSM)*

KKK

ALT.ROCK DORKS COVER A LOAD OF THEIR FAVOURITE SONGS JUST FOR YOU

BEACH SLANG are one of those bands that have a 'thing'. An inimitable flavour to everything they do that the moment you hear it, you know exactly which band it is. That's why when they turn their hand to a set of covers, you know exactly what you're going to get: cool-as-you-like, whisky-stained punk'n'roll versions of the original songs. This is exactly that. Whether they're tackling the wistfulness of Ride on a cover of Like A Daydream or the ramshackle '80s pop of The Plimsouls' A Million Miles Away, this is simply Beach Slang being Beach Slang. This is far from an essential entry into the band's arsenal, but the amount of fun they had doing this seeps out of the speakers. Helps that the originals are total bangers, too.

DOWNLOAD: Like A Daydream.

FOR FANS OF: Beach Slang, the '90s.

RYAN DE FREITAS

the fold. **MORBID VISIONS (KKK)** from 1986 is a ragged, finesse-free blast of wind-tunnel death metal with a single-minded focus on extremity, but 1987's **SCHIZOPHRENIA (KKKK)** saw things sharpened to a point that would be constantly refined across **BENEATH THE REMAINS (KKKK)** and **ARISE (KKKK)**. But they really hit fifth gear with 1993's **CHAOS A.D. (KKKKK)** and **ROOTS (KKKKK)** from 1996, two albums that were cornerstones not just for the band, but for metal in a new decade. Their attitude and genuine street-level grit meant that, rather than being cut down by grunge's scythe as so many metal bands were, they actually ended up helping shape the geography of metal and alternative music. A reunion with Max looks as unlikely as ever, and this collection simply rams home quite how sad that is. Because when Sepultura were on, they were a force to be reckoned with. And while post-Max, they've been good, they'll never beat what's on this immaculate collection.

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

Judas Priest
TURBO (Epic, 1986)

THE METAL GODS' MOST CONTROVERSIAL ALBUM, WORTH ANOTHER LOOK TO REALISE IT'S AN ABSOLUTE BELTER

BY 1986, Judas Priest were on a roll. Their British Steel album from 1980 had seen them enter the new decade as a shiny, bulletproof metal machine, while the success of 1982's Screaming For Vengeance and 1984's Defenders Of The Faith had made them megastars around the globe. Moving forward and always trying to think of new ways to do things had paid dividends, but it was to prove controversial when they used keyboards and new digital studio technology to give their next album a fresh sound. Some fans were outraged, accusing the band of selling out, while behind the scenes, frontman Rob Halford was hitting the booze and cocaine to such a degree that he would soon swear off both for the next 30-odd years, during which he would often mock-wince when talking about the album. But beyond initial reactions, Turbo boasts some of Priest's finest songs – Turbo Lover, Locked In, the awesome power ballad of Out In The Cold. With a reissue just released, what better time for the Metal God to talk us through Priest's most misunderstood album?

WITH THE SYNTHESIZERS, TURBO IS SEEN AS A DEPARTURE FOR PRIEST. WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

ROB HALFORD (*VOCALS*): "I think we were doing then what we're still doing now, which is looking to try to do something a bit different to what we'd done before. And because we were using all that new technology – things that had just been invented, like guitar synthesizers – I think we were just curious. 'Is it even possible to use these inventions and put them in the metal experience?' I can remember we were writing in Marbella, and Glenn [Tipton, Priest guitarist] was messing around with all these gadgets. Listening to all those sounds was a buzz."

WHAT WERE THE SESSIONS LIKE?

"Well, I think it's safe to say we were caught up in what was happening in America. If you look at the bands from that time, it was amazing, man – it was really, really cool. We started recording in Nassau in the Bahamas, but it was just a distraction. I was wrapped up in booze and drugs, and the whole session for Turbo, I don't know how I got through it. Personally, I was in a really challenging place. And it didn't really go well, so we went to Miami, which was also a distraction. We ended up making it in Los Angeles in the end."

IT GOT A VERY MIXED REACTION AT THE TIME FOR THE POLISHED SOUND. WHAT DID YOU MAKE OF THAT?

"I don't think we thought we'd made a controversial record. It was only when we started hearing feedback from the more traditional, British Steel-based fans, going, 'What the fuck are you doing, guys? What's all this guitar synthesiser crap?' We just let it go, man. We worked hard to make the best album we could, and that's all we could hope for."

WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE HILARIOUSLY OTT LOCKED IN VIDEO?

"You mean, me hanging upside down in the City Park Zoo bear pit in LA?! We had a lot of fun! We were having a blast. It was just a very exciting time. MTV had just started and for the first time you had this 24-hour-a-day music TV channel, and people went mental. They'd stay up all night watching it, including bands like Priest. And the labels were very keen you had a video to complement the music. It was definitely tongue-in-cheek – not gritty!"

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT TURBO NOW?

"I think it's important. When you think about Priest as a band and what we've made, it's easy to lose track of everything we've done. Altogether it's a good representation of where Priest – and the metal world – were in the mid-'80s. There was a time where I felt it was the black sheep of the family, but time has mellowed out some of the push-back, and now people can genuinely enjoy the great vibe that it gives you."

WORDS: NICK RUSKELL

"I WAS WRAPPED UP IN BOOZE AND DRUGS..."
ROB HALFORD

K!LOBBER

MU$T HAV£S

ALL THE BEST GEAR FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF PLANET ROCK AND BEYOND!

Like jewellery? Dig ghoulish shit? Are you Ash Costello? Then this skeletal unicorn jewellery stand is for you! (It's also perfect for presenting pickled onions at goth dinner parties.)
£24.99 Grindstore.com

Celebrate the new NXT champion – and the best theme in professional wrestling – with this natty Bobby Roode tee.
£19.99 Euroshop.wwe.com

Etsy is full of the coolest stuff, like this Tyler Joseph miniature charm. You should know that, sadly, Josh Dun isn't included.
£8.14 Etsy.com

Don't be a mug with this Panic! At The Disco drinking utensil. See what we did there? No? Read it back in a Danny Dyer accent…
£6.99 Grindstore.com

Pretend you're really old with this replica Metallica 1986 European tour T-shirt. Hobble slowly for extra effect.
£14.99 Grindstore.com

The new Wonder Woman movie looks ace, doesn't it? If it does turn out to be crap, mind, you can just pass these off as Weezer-branded socks.
$11.99 (£9.53) Superherostuff.com

Jorts have been given something of a bad name by John Cena, Mark Wahlberg and the guy in the MoneySuperMarket ad. Time to reclaim them for metal!
£29.99 Emp.co.uk

"I want a skeleton, waving a flag saying 'Neck Deep', on a red sun… AND I WANT IT NOW," demanded Ben Barlow. We think.
£14.99 Grindstore.com

Soon we'll be telling you how you can get tickets for the 2017 Kerrang! Awards. This tee might be useful for the morning after.
£9.99 Grindstore.com

Here's rock vs. metal... and it's actually a rock fighting some metal! GENIUS!
£9.99 Grindstore.com

Make your room great again with this Trump-scented candle (warning: might actually smell of regret).
£15.24 Etsy.com

The end of the greatest – and first – heavy metal band has finally come. Show respect, yeah?
£13.99 Emp.co.uk

Yeah, MCR are gone, but with this air freshener – a bit like your socks after a night in the mosh-pit – they'll never be forgotten.
£1.99 Grindstore.com

You don't get a lot of burgundy merch, do you? Shame. Maybe Mike Duce is colour-blind and thinks it's yellow.
£14.99 Impericon.com

True fact: it's impossible to interview Andy Biersack without him mentioning Batman at least 47 times. If he played guitar, he'd definitely wear this Batman guitar strap.
£13.99 Forbiddenplanet.com

You know what real a Revolution Radio would look like? If someone unplugged Nigel Farage's mic on LBC.
£15.99 Grindstore.com

Problem! It's cold, but you still want to finger-tap your guitar? These killer fingerless gloves are perfect for your predicament!
£9.99 Grindstore.com

In all honesty, this Fall Out Boy shirt is nothing special, but we just thought the woman modelling it had totally awesome hair. So there you go.
£14.99 Impericon.com

AND SO I WATCH YOU FROM AFAR

TIME: THE ENEMY OF ALL LIVING THINGS. YOU MAY AS WELL LOOK COOL WAITING FOR THE END WITH ONE OF THESE...

While this is terrible advice – we want you all to die old and wrinkly, having lived incredible, fulfilling lives – you have to admit, this is a pretty cool thing to have on your wrist, day in, day out.
£37.20 Zazzle.co.uk

This Metallica watch, made by watch titans Seiko and sporting Pushead's classic Yin Yang Skulls design, is perfect for whenever you feel Frantic. Tick tick tick tick tick tock! *FRAN-TICK TICK TICK TICK TICK TOCK!*
$279.99 (£222.55) Metallica.com

Nixon's super-cool Star Wars watch series combines iconography from our favourite space odyssey with a subtle and classy design. And, surprisingly, we didn't copy that off a press release. The Death Star one is our fave.
£100 Nixon.com

If you don't have a cool watch, how will you know when it's Adventure Time? And how will you know to grab your friends to go to very distant lands with Jake the Dog and Finn the... watch? Okay, you've got the point.
£11.95 Retrostyler.com

This Day Of The Dead watch utilises the skull's yellowing teeth to tell the time. Which is cool. The upper-jaw reveals the hour; the bottom, the minute. It's a pretty cool reminder to never waste a minute of your life. LET'S DO IT!
$259.99 (£206.86) Watches.com

If you're a fan of plunging coins into arcade machines... you might not have enough to buy this. So, look, you really don't need that extra session on House Of The Dead. Put those pennies aside, and you'll own it in no time.
£43.44 Thisiswhyimbroke.com

DON'T MISS

TRIVIUM

MATT HEAFY EXPLAINS WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON WITH THEIR DRUMMER SITUATION, AS THE METALLERS PREPARE TO DUST OFF SOME COBWEBS…

THE UK WAS THE FIRST PLACE TO REALLY EMBRACE TRIVIUM. HOW DOES IT FEEL WHEN YOU GUYS COME BACK?

MATT HEAFY (*VOCALS/GUITAR*): "I joke, but sometimes I think we're more of a British band than some British bands are! The first show we ever played there was the Wulfrun Hall in Wolverhampton [in 2005], and we were the first band on at the Road Rage Tour. We were in the back thinking, 'Man, no-one's gonna know who we are, this is gonna be terrible.' Then we heard the crowd were chanting Trivium, and we go out there and people are flipping out! When we left the stage, the entire crowd came to meet us instead of watching bands. We felt bad, but it's everything we always wanted to do in life; we wanted to play in other countries, make metal, and have a good time."

YOU'RE COMING BACK WITH SUPPORT FROM SIKTH – ARE YOU FANS OF THOSE GUYS?

"We're massive fans of that band. We were on the Road Rage Tour and the Chimaira guys showed us the Trees… [The Trees Are Dead & Dried Out Wait for Something Wild, 2003] record. I've never seen them live before, but I've been a fan since 2005."

NICE! YOU RECENTLY RE-RELEASED YOUR DEBUT ALBUM, EMBER TO INFERNO. WILL YOU BE PLAYING LOADS OF OLD MATERIAL?

"It's crazy to think we have seven records now, so we have to balance it correctly. There'll be at least one rotating Ember… song, a lot of Ascendancy, and a lot of In Waves. If I had to put my favourite Trivium records in order, it would be Ascendancy, In Waves, and a tie between Ember To Inferno and Shogun."

SO MANY GOOD ALBUMS! DO YOU PREFER PLAYING SMALLER SHOWS LIKE THE OLD DAYS?

"We like a bit of everything. My goal in life is to have Rammstein's pyro, Nine Inch Nails' video screens and Iron Maiden's staging. That would be the most killer live show in the world, but we've got to do a lot of work before we can get there."

> ***"WE DON'T CHANGE DRUMMERS BECAUSE WE FEEL LIKE IT…"***
> **MATT HEAFY**

WE SAW THERE WAS A CHANGE IN THE TRIVIUM CAMP RECENTLY, WITH ALEX BENT JOINING YOU GUYS AS YOUR NEW DRUMMER FOR THIS TOUR. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT'S GOING ON THERE?

"We don't change drummers because we feel like it, and I know some people were upset when I said our last three were session drummers, but Alex is a session drummer. These are real things – it's not an insult. I guess the way we think of drummers is how many bands think of producers – they bring something different to a band in a period of time. It's not fun to teach seven albums' worth of material to a drummer every couple of years, but it's been something we had to do out of necessity. We need a guy that can play Declaration, but at the other end play Until The World Goes Cold. We're very lucky that Alex can play everything."

WORDS: LUKE MORTON **PHOTO:** GETTY

SO, WILL WE GET A NEW TRIVIUM ALBUM THIS YEAR?

"We do have some riffs kicking about here and there, but no definitive plans. When Ember was re-released it showed me a couple of things… I used to think Ember was just Ascendancy junior, but I went back to listen to the masters, and it made me realise Ember was its own thing. It's been a very introspective time thinking about the love we've had from the UK, and it's been really inspiring to make music lately. It's been fun to get back into a place that's just us without having to think about it. We're really excited to see what we're going to make next."

DATES: Dublin Academy February 11, Belfast Limelight 12, O2 Institute Birmingham 14, Manchester Academy 15, Glasgow Barrowlands 16, London Camden Roundhouse 17, Nottingham Rock City 18. Support: SikTh, SHVPES.

YOUR WEEK!

KERRANG! DAY *FEBRUARY 08*

BIRMINGHAM Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (O2 Academy3 Birmingham)
GLASGOW Chelsea Grin, Betraying The Martyrs, Make Them Suffer, Void Of Vision (Cathouse)
LONDON Green Day, The Interrupters (O2 Arena)
MANCHESTER Cymbals Eat Guitars, Mold (Soup Kitchen)
YORK Skindred, Raging Speedhorn (Fibbers)

THURSDAY *FEBRUARY 09*

BIRMINGHAM Anthrax, The Raven Age (O2 Institute Birmingham)
HOLMFIRTH Skindred, Raging Speedhorn (Picturedrome)
LEAMINGTON SPA Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (Zephyr Lounge)
MANCHESTER Chelsea Grin, Betraying The Martyrs, Make Them Suffer, Void Of Vision (Sound Control)
SHEFFIELD The Interrupters, Bar Stool Preachers, Gimp Fist (O2 Academy2 Sheffield)

FRIDAY *FEBRUARY 10*

BEDFORD Skindred (Esquires)
LIVERPOOL The Interrupters, Bar Stool Preachers, Gimp Fist (O2 Academy2 Liverpool)
LONDON Anthrax, The Raven Age (O2 Forum Kentish Town)
LONDON Chelsea Grin, Coquin Migale, Skies, Betraying the Martyrs, Make Them Suffer, Void of Vision (O2 Academy Islington)
LONDON Cymbals Eat Guitars, Francobollo, Modern Rituals (Underworld, Camden)
MANCHESTER Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (Satans Hollow)
OXFORD Thought Forms (Cellar)

SATURDAY *FEBRUARY 11*

BRISTOL Anthrax, The Raven Age (O2 Academy Bristol)
DUBLIN Trivium, SikTh, SHVPES (Academy)
EDINBURGH Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (Opium)
GUILDFORD Thought Forms (Boileroom)
LONDON Jettblack (Garage)
LONDON The Interrupters (Dome Tufnell Park)
SHEFFIELD Awooga (Corporation)

SUNDAY *FEBRUARY 12*

BASINGSTOKE ((OHHMS)) (Sanctuary)
BELFAST Trivium, SikTh, SHVPES (Limelight)
BRIDGWATER Palm Reader (Cobblestones)
GLASGOW Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (O2 ABC2 Glasgow)
SOUTHAMPTON Modern Baseball, The Superweaks, Thin Lips (1865)

MONDAY *FEBRUARY 13*

BIRMINGHAM Comeback Kid, Deez Nuts, First Blood, Hellions, Get the Shot, Reality Slap (Mama Roux's)
BRISTOL Modern Baseball, The Superweaks, Thin Lips (Bierkeller)
NEWCASTLE Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (O2 Academy2 Newcastle)
NOTTINGHAM Anthrax, The Raven Age (Rock City)
OXFORD ((OHHMS)), Mammoth Weed Wizard Bastard (Cellar)
PLYMOUTH Palm Reader, Toy Mountains (Underground)

TUESDAY *FEBRUARY 14*

BIRMINGHAM Trivium, SikTh, SHVPES (O2 Institute Birmingham)
BRIGHTON Yonaka (Sticky Mike's Frog Bar)
BRISTOL Four Year Strong, Chunk! No Captain Chunk, Boston Manor, Homebound (Fleece)
CARDIFF Thought Forms (Moon Club)
GLASGOW Taking Back Sunday, Frank Iero And The Patience (O2 ABC Glasgow)
MANCHESTER Anthrax, The Raven Age (Academy)
MANCHESTER Deez Nuts, Comeback Kid, First Blood, Hellions, Get the Shot (Sound Control)
NEWCASTLE Modern Baseball, The Superweaks, Thin Lips (Riverside)
READING Galactic Empire, Sithu Aye (Sub89)

RIDER OF THE WEEK

BAND: Foo Fighters

The rock icons want one bag of Pirate's Booty. We're not sure what that is, but we *do* know how you get pinkeye. Maybe that's the reason pirates wear eye patches…

Foo Fighters

4 x cases of water – FIJI or Volvic
1 x large POM juice
12 x cans of Diet Coke – no silly variant cokes, please
1 x case of assorted sodas, chilled on ice
1 x half-gallon carton of fresh orange juice (Minute Maid Pulp Free is acceptable if your local juicer is lazy)
1 x large bottle of Ocean Spray cranberry juice
6 x bottles of Odwalla or Superfood protein shake
3 x whole, firm, borderline-chubby avocados
3 x red, juicy, firm and lacking brown splotches tomatoes
1 x pack of Horizon cheddar cheese and Horizon jack cheese
1 x dark chocolate bar… then Dean & DeLuca or something French
1 x case of Vitamin Water energy drink
18 x cans of Red Bull
6 x bottles of Gatorade
1 x half-pound fresh ground coffee
1 x coffee/tea set-up
Fruit: 12 x bananas, 6 x apples, 2 x pears, 4 x kiwi…
1 x jar of self-righteous peanut butter
1 x bag of Pirate's Booty – not Johnny Depp's

CAN'T GET TO A GIG?

THEN HERE'S SOME OTHER STUFF TO KEEP YOUR EYES/EARS BUSY

INKOMBAT! YOU ME AT SIX VS. TWIN ATLANTIC

KERRANG! TV – FEBRUARY 8, *6PM*

While YMA6 frontman Josh Franceschi battles ticket touts, he's now trying to take on Twin Atlantic, too. It's okay, Josh – Sam McTrusty is on your side…

TWENTY ONE PILOTS LIVE: JOSH DUN'S DRUM BATTLE WITH HIMSELF

KERRANG.COM

We all know twenty one pilots' show is the best experience in the world, right? Well, Josh Dun has used the magic of video and giant screens to have a drum battle with himself. We just wish there were actually two Josh Duns now!

SUPERSIZE! ONLY THE LEGENDS – TOP 50

KERRANG! TV – FEBRUARY 12, *6PM*

Time to put your stretchy pants on, because you're about to be fed 50 rock legends. If you thought that all-you-can-eat buffet at Pizza Hut gave you a huge food baby, then think again…

MY FIRST GIG

WHO: THE TRAGICALLY HIP, GENERAL MOTORS PLACE, CANADA, 1999

THE JAPANDROIDS DRUMMER, ALONG WITH THE REST OF CANADA, WAS INSPIRED BY A BAND WHO WERE HIP AND NOT TRAGIC…

DAVID PROWSE, JAPANDROIDS

"One of the most famous bands in Canada are called The Tragically Hip, and I've seen them a couple of times, but the first time I saw them was when I was about 16. They're very, very famous over here, and they played a hockey arena – can you get any more Canadian than that (*laughs*)?

"They were definitely a big part of my childhood, and when Brian [King, Japandroids vocalist/guitarist] and I were hanging out with a bunch of friends, we all rented this cabin together recently, and The Tragically Hip had just played their final concert ever, because their lead singer [Gord Downie] sadly has terminal cancer. After his diagnosis [in 2016] they did one last giant tour of Canada and it finished with them playing their hometown. It was very sad and emotional, but it was also this great moment where they really got to say goodbye to all their fans on their own terms.

"They're this band that are inescapable in terms of having influenced basically anybody who's lived in Canada in the last three decades. Gord Downie is this incredible storyteller, and I think he's painted a lot of pictures with his words that Canadians specifically can really grab on to.

"I saw them before I ever played in a band or anything like that, so I think on some level they made me want to do that."

WORDS: EMILY CARTER

MY VENUE

THE LIVE ROOMS
CHESTER
STATION ROAD, CHESTER, CH1 3DR
IAN SHAW, HEAD PROMOTER

HEY IAN! COULD YOU TELL US A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE LIVE ROOMS IN CHESTER?
"The venue is pretty brand new. We opened its doors on October 17, 2013. Before us, it was called The Laugh Inn and then Deva Mail Club before that."

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VENUE?
"I'm the head promoter. Within the company [Surprise You're Dead Promotions] we've had other venues – such as The Compass, Chester (RIP), and Central Station in Wrexham – all of which hosted some huge bands and artists."

IS IT A REWARDING JOB? TELL US ABOUT THE PROS AND CONS OF WORKING WITH A VENUE...
"It can be, for sure, but it also has some testing times, too. Not as many tours as we'd like come our way, and as a venue we need to be open as much as we can so its tough filling it with the right acts. We love putting on events and love seeing people having a great time. However, the downside is that everything can be a gamble."

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE VENUE TO CHESTER?
"I like to think it's crucial! The Live Rooms really became the first venue of its size for the city. We have great venues in the city, like Telford's and Alexander's, but both are pretty small and all three of us together are integral to the growth of the Chester scene."

COULD YOU TELL US ABOUT SOME OF THE BEST ROCK GIGS TO HAPPEN THERE?
"Some of my favourites would be: Moose Blood – it was such an amazing gig and the place was rammed, as their profile was building. Sepultura is up there as I grew up on Chaos A.D.. Gary Numan, as that show should probably have never happened, being so small a venue. Finally, Lordi and trying to fit them and their costumes in was mildly amusing – it was a great show, too."

DO YOU HAVE MANY PLANS IN PLACE TO ENSURE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR THE VENUE?
"Year-on-year the calendar gets busier and busier, so our aim again would be to open more regularly, with quality busy nights. Also, to work more with the local band scene."

ARE YOU FACING ANY NEW CHALLENGES IN 2017?
"Increased costs, as always – it seems everyone's costs have gone up, but ticket prices kinda seem to stay the same. Keeping customers happy and drinking. The prices inevitably have to go up for us to stay open, but it's a struggle keeping everyone happy."

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BOOKING NOW

AGAINST THE CURRENT
Brighton Haunt March 8, Norwich Epic Studios 9, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 10, Edinburgh Liquid Room 12, Sheffield Leadmill 13, Cardiff Globe 14, London Bush Hall 17.

ALL TIME LOW
London Eventim Apollo March 10, Cardiff Great Hall March 11, Southampton Guildhall 13, Cambridge Corn Exchange 14, O2 Academy Leeds 15, O2 Academy Birmingham 16, Liverpool Guild Of Students 18, Belfast Ulster Hall 19, Dublin Olympia 20, O2 Academy Bristol 22, O2 Apollo Manchester 23, O2 Academy Sheffield 24, O2 Academy Newcastle 25, Edinburgh Corn Exchange 27, O2 Academy Glasgow 28, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR 30, London O2 Academy Brixton 31. Support: SWMRS, Waterparks.

ANTHRAX
O2 Institute Birmingham February 9, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 10, O2 Academy Bristol 11, Nottingham Rock City 13, Manchester Academy 14, Glasgow Barrowlands 15, Newcastle University 16, Norwich UEA 17.

APOCALYPTICA
Manchester Bridgewater Hall February 27, Edinburgh Queen's Hall 28, London Royal Festival Hall March 1.

ARCTANGENT
Line-up: Explosions In The Sky, Converge. Bristol Fernhill Farm August 17 – 19.

ATTILA
Glasgow Garage April 1, Leeds Key Club 2, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 3, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 4, Bristol Marble Factory 5, Manchester Academy II 6, London Camden Electric Ballroom 7, Southampton Engine Rooms 9.

AUGUST BURNS RED
London Camden Underworld July 28, Bristol Fleece 29, Manchester Sound Control 30.

BASEMENT
Southampton Joiners February 28 – March 1, London Bush Hall 2 – 3, Manchester Deaf Institute 5 – 6, Glasgow King Tut's 7 – 8, Leeds Key Club 9 – 10. Support: Higher Power.

BLINK-182
Cardiff Motorpoint Arena July 3, Nottingham Motorpoint Arena 4, Leeds First Direct Arena 5, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 7, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 9, Glasgow SSE Hydro 11, Manchester Arena 14, Liverpool Echo Arena 15, Bournemouth International Centre 17, London O2 Arena 19 – 20. Support: Frank Turner.

BLOODSTOCK FESTIVAL
Line-up: Amon Amarth, Megadeth, Blind Guardian, Testament, Possessed, Hatebreed, Hell, Whitechapel, Decapitated, Brujeria, Obituary, Skindred, Annihilator, Municipal Waste. Derbyshire Catton Park August 10 – 13.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME
Line-up: Green Day. London Hyde Park July 1.

BURY TOMORROW
O2 Institute Birmingham April 14, O2 Ritz Manchester 15, Glasgow Garage 16, Newcastle Riverside 17, Leeds Stylus 19, Nottingham Rock City 20, Cardiff Y Plas 21, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 22. Support: Crossfaith.

COUNTERFEIT
Leeds Key Club April 18, Manchester Academy III 19, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 20, Glasgow Stereo 21, Nottingham Rock City Basement 22, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 23, Bristol Fleece 25, London Camden Underworld 26, Southampton Joiners 28, Brighton Haunt 29.

CREEPER
Manchester Academy II March 25, Glasgow Garage 26, Newcastle University 27, Leeds Stylus 28, London Camden Electric Ballroom 30, Southampton 1865 31, O2 Institute2 Birmingham April 1, Cardiff TramShed 2. Support: Milk Teeth, Energy, Puppy.

CROWBAR
O2 Institute Birmingham March 16, Sheffield Plug 17, Glasgow King Tut's 18, Manchester Academy3 19, London Dome Tufnell Park 20, Dublin Voodoo Lounge 21, Belfast Limelight II 22, Reading Sub89 23, Southampton Engine Rooms 24, Bristol Bierkeller 25.

DEAF HAVANA
O2 Ritz Manchester February 17, O2 ABC Glasgow 18, O2 Academy Bristol 20, O2 Institute Birmingham 21, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR UEA 23, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 24.

DEFTONES
London Alexandra Palace May 5, O2 Apollo Manchester 6, Glasgow SECC 7. Support: AFI.

DESERTFEST
Line-up: Turbonegro, Samsara Blues Experiment, The Picturebooks, Satan's Satyrs, Yuri Gagarin, Vodun, Mammoth Storm, Elephant Tree, Sleep. London Camden April 28 – 30.

DEVIL SOLD HIS SOUL
O2 ABC2 Glasgow April 14, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 15, Bristol Thekla 21, London Boston Music Room 29.

DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL
Line-up: System Of A Down, Biffy Clyro, Aerosmith, Slayer, Prophets Of Rage, Rob Zombie, AFI, Five Finger Death Punch, Of Mice & Men, Sleeping With Sirens, Fozzy, Every Time I Die, Simple Plan, Motionless In White, The Story So Far, Pierce The Veil, Alter Bridge, Airbourne, Opeth, Clutch, Sum 41, Good Charlotte, Issues, Ministry, Mastodon, DevilDriver, Coheed And Cambria, Four Year Strong, A Day To Remember, Steel Panther, Northlane, State Champs, As it Is and loads more! Derby Donington Park June 9 – 11.

DUCKING PUNCHES
Southampton Joiners April 16, Plymouth Underground 17, Bristol Exchange 18, Birmingham Actress & Bishop 19, Sheffield Record Junkee 23, Nottingham Bodega 24, Leeds Key Club 25, Huddersfield Parish 26, London Monarch 27, Bradford Underground 28, Bolton Alma 29, Norwich Arts Centre 30. Support: Apologies, I Have None (27 – 30).

EVANESCENCE
London Eventim Apollo June 13 – 14.

EVAROSE
O2 Academy Oxford March 4, Southampton Joiners 5, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 6, Dundee Redd Suite 7, Glasgow Broadcast 8, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 9, Manchester Zoo 10, London O2 Academy2 Islington 11. Support: Veridian.

FAT LIP FESTIVAL
Line-up: Young Guns, Empire, Feed The Rhino, Straight Lines, WSTR, Blood Youth, SHVPES, As Lions, When We Were Wolves, Foes. Bristol The Lanes and Bierkeller July 29.

FOUR YEAR STRONG
Bristol Fleece February 14, Manchester Academy II 15, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 16, London Camden KOKO 17. Support: Chunk! No, Captain Chunk!, Boston Manor, Homebound.

FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES
Norwich Waterfront March 16, Manchester Academy II 17, Newcastle Riverside 18, Glasgow Saint Luke's 19, Belfast Oh Yeah Music Centre 21, Dublin Academy II 22, Leeds Stylus 24, Birmingham Asylum 25, Cardiff Globe 26, Exeter Phoenix 27, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 29, London Camden KOKO 30.

GHOST
Norwich UEA March 24, Cardiff Great Hall 25, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 26, O2 Academy Leeds 28, O2 ABC Glasgow 29, O2 Apollo Manchester 31, O2 Academy Birmingham April 1, Brighton Dome 2.

GOJIRA
O2 Academy Birmingham March 11, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 12, Manchester Academy 14, O2 Academy Newcastle 15, O2 Academy Leeds 16, O2 ABC Glasgow 17, O2 Academy Bristol 18. Support: Code Orange.

GREEN DAY
London O2 Arena February 8, Glasgow Bellahouston Park July 4. Support: The Interrupters (February 8), Rancid (July 4).

GUNS N' ROSES
London Stadium June 16 – 17.

HAND MADE FESTIVAL
Line-up: Twin Atlantic, Pulled Apart By Horses, Tigercub, Muncie Girls, Puppy. O2 Academy Leicester April 29 – 30.

HEAVY SCOTLAND
Line-up: Arch Enemy, Dyscarnate, Sodomized Cadaver, Disposable, Behemoth, Grave, Shiraz Lane, Centrilia. Edinburgh Corn Exchange April 1 – 2.

HELLIONS
Brighton Sticky Mike's February 21, Nottingham Red Room 22, Glasgow Garage Attic 23, Newcastle Jumpin' Jacks 24, Leeds Key Club 25, Southampton Joiners 26, Plymouth Underground 27, Cardiff Fuel 28. Support: Acres.

HIGHLY SUSPECT
Glasgow Saint Luke's March 4, O2 Academy2

Birmingham 6, Manchester Sound Control 7, London Camden KOKO 9.

HUNDREDTH
London Camden Underworld March 26, Birmingham Flapper 27, Dundee Beat Generator Live 28, Glasgow Attic 29, Leeds Key Club 30, Bournemouth Anvil 31. Support: Landscapes, Silent Planet.

IMPERICON FESTIVAL
Line-up: Thy Art Is Murder, Being As An Ocean, Miss May I, In Hearts Wake. Manchester Academy April 17.

IRON MAIDEN
Nottingham Motorpoint Arena May 4, Manchester Arena 8, Sheffield Arena 10, Leeds First Direct Arena 11, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 14, Glasgow SSE Hydro 16, Aberdeen GE Oil & Gas Arena 17, Liverpool Echo Arena 20, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 21, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 24, London O2 Arena 27. Support: Shinedown.

JAPANDROIDS
O2 Institute Birmingham April 28, Glasgow Garage 20, Leeds Stylus May 1, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 2, Manchester Gorilla 4, Brighton Concorde II 5, London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire 6.

KATAKLYSM
London O2 Academy Islington October 10. Support: Graveworm.

KISS
Glasgow SSE Hydro May 27, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 28, Manchester Arena 30, London O2 Arena 31.

LOWER THAN ATLANTIS
Norwich UEA March 9, O2 Academy Birmingham 10, Manchester Academy 11, O2 Academy Leeds 13, O2 Academy Newcastle 14, O2 ABC Glasgow 15, London O2 Academy Brixton 17, Cardiff Great Hall 18. Support: Young Guns, Hands Like Houses, ROAM.

MALLORY KNOX
O2 Academy Bristol March 20, Cardiff Tramshed 21, Norwich UEA 22, O2 Institute Birmingham 24, Sheffield Leadmill 25, Cambridge Corn Exchange 26, Aberdeen Garage 28, Edinburgh Liquid Room 29, Newcastle University 31, O2 Academy Liverpool April 1, Portsmouth Pyramids 2, O2 Academy Oxford 4, London Camden KOKO 5 – 6. Support: Lonely The Brave, Fatherson.

MANTAR
London Camden Black Heart April 5.

MAYHEM
London Camden Electric Ballroom March 29, Manchester Club Academy 30, Dublin Academy 31, Glasgow Lords Of The Land April 1.

THE MENZINGERS
Southampton Talking Heads April 18, London Camden KOKO 19, Bristol Bierkeller 20, Manchester Academy II 21, Glasgow Oran Mor 22, Derby Venue 23, Norwich Epic Studios 24. Support: The Flatliners, The Dirty Nil.

MONSTER TRUCK
Belfast Limelight II March 13, Dublin Academy II 14, Bristol Marble Factory 15, O2 Institute Birmingham 17, Manchester Club Academy 18, Glasgow King Tut's 19, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 21, London Camden Electric Ballroom 22.

NAPALM DEATH
O2 Institute Birmingham May 9, Manchester Rebellion 11, London Camden Electric Ballroom 12. Support: Brujeria, Iron Reagan.

OUTBREAK FEST
Line-up: Gorilla Biscuits, Turning Point, Title Fight, Breakdown, Broken Teeth, Fury, Freedom, The Flex, Higher Power and more! Leeds Canal Mills April 19 – 30.

PALLBEARER
London Camden Underworld April 6, Bristol Thekla 8, Manchester Ruby Lounge 9.

PARKWAY DRIVE
London O2 Academy Brixton April 8, Nottingham Rock City 9, O2 Academy Leeds 10, Cardiff University Great Hall 11. Support: Asking Alexandria.

PINEGROVE
Bristol Exchange February 21, London King's Cross Scala 22, Manchester Deaf Institute 23, Glasgow Stereo 24, Birmingham Mama Roux's 25, Cambridge Portland Arms 26, Norwich Epic Studios 28, Leeds Brudenell Social Club March 1, Brighton Haunt 2.

PRESS TO MECO
Leeds Packhouse March 4, Glasgow Audio 5, Birmingham Sunflower Lounge 6, London Camden Black Heart 7. Support Massmatiks, Bellevue Days (London only).

PRIMUS
London Camden Roundhouse June 20.

JUST ANNOUNCED

2000TREES FESTIVAL
Line-up: Slaves, Nothing But Thieves, Pulled Apart By Horses, Jamie Lenman, Feed The Rhino, Dinosaur Pile-Up, Muncie Girls, Black Foxxes, Grumble Bee, SHVPES, Bad Sign, Bellevue Days, Weirds, Personal Best, Cassels, Doe, Fizzy Blood, Sœur, John Matranga, Giants, Tigercub, Away Days, Apologies, I Have None, The St. Pierre Snake Invasion, Louise Distras, Milestones, Polary, Making Monsters, wars, Vukovi, Straight Lines, Steven Battelle, Petrol Girls, The One Hundred, Queen Kwong, Area 11, Greywind, Strange Bones. Cheltenham Upcote Farm July 6 – 8.

BLOODSTOCK FESTIVAL
Latest additions: Soilwork, Macabre, Wintersun, Scarab.

FEARLESS INVASION TOUR
Line-up: I Prevail, Ice Nine Kills, Oceans Ate Alaska. London Camden Underworld May 31.

JAMIE LENMAN
O2 Institute3 Birmingham April 27, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 28, Bristol Thekla 29, Manchester Sound Control May 1, London Scala 2, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 4, Leeds Key Club 5, Glasgow King Tut's 6.

TRNSMT FESTIVAL
Line-up: Biffy Clyro, Twin Atlantic, Circa Waves. Glasgow Green July 7 – 9.

NEW FOUND GLORY
O2 ABC Glasgow September 27, O2 Academy Newcastle 28, Manchester Academy 29, O2 Academy Birmingham 30, O2 Academy Leeds October 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, O2 Academy Bristol 5, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 6, London Camden Electric Ballroom 7, London Camden Underworld 8.

PHOTO: CHRIS CASEY

PWR BTTM
Dublin Workmans Club April 10, Manchester Deaf Institute 11, Sheffield Harley 12, Birmingham Hare & Hounds 13, Glasgow CCA 15, Bristol Exchange 16, Brighton Haunt 17, London Islington Garage 18.

RAMBLIN' MAN FAIR
Line-up: ZZ Top, Monster Truck, Jared James Nichols, Kansas and more. Maidstone Mote Park July 29 – 30.

READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL
Line-up: Muse, At The Drive-In, Architects, Against The Current, The Amity Affliction, Korn, Jimmy Eat World, While She Sleeps. Reading Richfield Avenue, Leeds Bramham Park August 25 – 27.

REAL FRIENDS
Manchester Club Academy April 6, Birmingham Asylum 7, Newcastle Riverside 9, Glasgow Saint Luke's 10, Leeds Stylus 11, Bristol Thekla 13, Norwich Epic Studios 14, Southampton Engine Rooms 15, London Camden Electric Ballroom 16. Support: Can't Swim, Microwave.

RITCHIE BLACKMORE'S RAINBOW
Manchester Arena June 22, Glasgow SSE Hydro 25, Birmingham Genting Arena 28.

RITUAL FESTIVAL
Line-up: Ihsahn, All Pigs Must Die, Anaal Nathrakh, Miser, Bossk. Leeds Belgrave Music Hall April 8.

ROYAL REPUBLIC
Glasgow Garage March 30, Manchester Academy II 31, London Camden Electric Ballroom April 1.

SLAM DUNK FESTIVAL
Line-up: Enter Shikari, Don Broco, Bowling For Soup, Reel Big Fish, Less Than Jake, Cute Is What We Aim For, We The Kings, Beartooth, Tonight Alive, Against Me!, The Bronx, Goldfinger, Mad Caddies, The Movielife, Trophy Eyes, Like Pacific. Birmingham NEC May 27, Leeds City Centre 28, Hatfield Forum 29.

STATE CHAMPS
Southampton Engine Rooms March 9, O2 Academy Bristol 10, O2 Ritz Manchester 11, Newcastle Riverside 13, Glasgow Garage 14, Leeds Beckett University 16, O2 Institute Birmingham 17, London O2 Kentish Town Forum 18.

STONE FREE FESTIVAL
Line-up: Ritchie Blackmore's Rainbow. London O2 Arena June 17 – 18.

SUM 41
O2 Academy Birmingham February 24, Manchester Academy 25, O2 Academy Leeds 26, Glasgow Barrowlands 28, London O2 Academy Brixton March 2, O2 Academy Bristol 3, Nottingham Rock City, O2 Guildhall Southampton 6.

TAKING BACK SUNDAY
O2 ABC Glasgow February 14, O2 Ritz Manchester 15, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 16, Nottingham Rock City 17, Norwich UEA 18. Support: Frank Iero And The Patience.

TECH FEST
Line-up: The Black Dahlia Murder, Obscura, Aborted, The Arusha Accord, Hacktivist, Ingested, The Algorithm, Oceans Ate Alaska, Dyscarnate, Carcer City, Exist Immortal, Sarah Longfield, Alaska, The Fine Constant, Within Destruction, Aenimus, Toska, The Royal, Hieroglyph, FRCTRD, Fraktions, Nycosia. Newark Showground July 6 – 11.

THRICE
London Camden KOKO April 27, Nottingham Rock City 28.

TOGETHERFEST
Line-up: Youth Of Today, American Nightmare, Trash Talk, Vanishing Life, Wolf Down. London Electric Ballroom Camden February 25.

TOUCHÉ AMORÉ
Brighton Haunt February 15, Bristol Fleece 17, Manchester Sound Control 18, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 19, Glasgow Stereo 20, Leeds Brudenell Social Club 21, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 22, London O2 Academy Islington 23.

TRIVIUM
Dublin Academy February 11, Belfast Limelight 12, O2 Institute Birmingham 14, Manchester Academy 15, Glasgow Barrowlands 16, London Camden Roundhouse 17, Nottingham Rock City 18.

UNDERØATH
O2 Ritz Manchester May 1, Dublin Academy 2, Nottingham Rock City 3, O2 ABC Glasgow 4, O2 Academy Newcastle 5, O2 Institute Birmingham 6, Leeds Beckett University 8, London O2 Forum Kentish Town 9, Norwich Nick Rayns LCR UEA 10, O2 Academy Bristol 11.

WE ARE THE OCEAN
Glasgow Cathouse March 22, Manchester Sound Control 23, London Tufnell Park Dome 24.

WHILE SHE SLEEPS
York Fibbers April 20, London Tufnell Park Dome 22 – 23, Brighton Concorde II 25, Southampton Talking Heads 26, O2 Academy2 Oxford 27, Bristol Fleece 28, Manchester Academy II 29, Dublin Academy May 1, Belfast Oh Yeah Centre 2, Liverpool Arts Club 3, Stoke Sugarmill 5, Norwich Waterfront 6, Newcastle Riverside 8, Glasgow Garage 9, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 10, Birmingham Asylum 12, Leeds Stylus 13.

WITH CONFIDENCE
London Underworld Camden February 24, Southampton Joiners 25, Bristol Exchange 26, Leeds Key Club 28, Manchester Sound Control March 1, Glasgow King Tut's 2, Newcastle Think Tank? 3, Nottingham Basement 4, Birmingham Asylum 5, Norwich Epic Studious 6. Support: Broadside, Safe To Say, Milestones.

YOU ME AT SIX
O2 Academy Newcastle April 3, Plymouth Pavilions 5, Blackburn King George's Hall 6, Doncaster Dome 7, O2 Academy Birmingham 10, Bournemouth Solent Hall 11, Glasgow SECC 13, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 14, London Alexandra Palace 15. Support: Tonight Alive, Black Foxxes.

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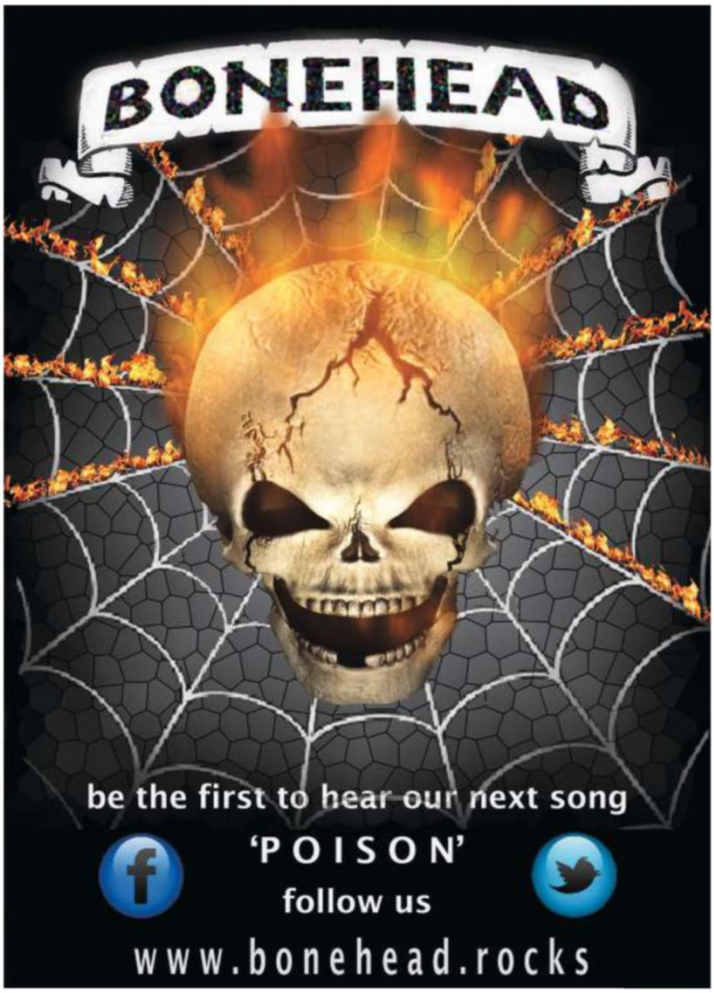

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KERRANG!
INVESTIGATES

PHOTO: GETTY

EDITORIAL
DREAM VALENTINE'S DATE. TEN WORDS. GO...

EDITOR: James McMahon *(Resident Evil 7 and mashed potato leave me alone, please)*
DEPUTY EDITOR: George Garner *(An afternoon spent cage diving and then a houmousy meal)*
ART EDITOR: Steve Beech *(Wife, Walthamstow Dogs (RIP), scampi and chips and four pints)*
FEATURES EDITOR: Sam Coare *(Steak dinner with Livy, no emails, 10 hours of sleep)*
ASSOCIATE EDITOR (REVIEWS): Nick Ruskell *(Basingstoke Pizza Hut followed by a screening of The Matrix)*
DEPUTY ART EDITOR: Matt Dykzeul *(A slice of pizza and an Dario Argento double bill)*
SUB EDITOR/EDITORIAL ASSISTANT: Emily Carter *(Going to Disneyland, riding rollercoasters until one of us pukes)*
LISTINGS EDITOR: James Hingle *(A few cocktails and a Nando's with Laura – hi Laura!)*
CONTRIBUTING ED: Katie Parsons *(Big bowl of ice cream and High Fidelity on DVD)*

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SPECIAL THANKS TO: William T Jack.

SCARLET BORG: Scarlet Borg.

INTERN OF THE WEEK: Rebecca O'Rourke.
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THE ULTIMATE Valentine's ROCKSTAR TEST

PATTY WALTERS AS IT IS

HE'S A BIG-HEARTED BLOKE. BUT HAS THE FRONTMAN GOT THE MOVES TO BE YOUR VALENTINE?

Patty is Sorry.

ON LOVE'N'ROLL...

WHAT'S BEEN YOUR GRANDEST-EVER ROMANTIC GESTURE?

"I had a girlfriend who was having a bad day – maybe we had a fight – and left me alone in her room for a couple of hours. I found these heart-shaped Post-it notes and covered her entire wall with them – we're talking maybe 100 notes, each one listing a different thing that I loved about her. I got some serious boyfriend points for that one!"

WHAT'S BEEN THE MOST MEMORABLE THING SOMEONE HAS EVER TRIED TO WIN YOUR HEART?

"One that sticks in my mind is a funny one! We were out in America, supporting Sum 41 and Senses Fail, and there was this photographer who was asking if she could shoot the show and do some portraits with me. Then, after the show as we were breaking down our gear, she asked me for my phone number. I didn't think it was weird at the time. But then I got this massive influx of texts, like, 'Ooooh baby!' and 'Send me pics!' So I did what seemed like the respectable thing, and explained that I had a girlfriend and apologised for giving the wrong impression. Then her reply was, 'Oh, it's okay, I'm engaged, hahaha!' and just kept sending stuff! It was the most surreal and confusing experience!"

YOU WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR LOVE, BUT YOU WON'T DO... WHAT?

"Too many things! For me, as much as I'd like to be the confident, extroverted kind of guy, I could never really reciprocate the 'wearing sexy, arousing underwear' thing. I'd feel so unbelievably awkward. What if I was going out with a great girl who was really into posing pouches? It would take a great deal of persuading..."

Oh, come on. You could sell branded As It Is ones afterwards...

DATING DISASTERS...

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST-EVER ROMANTIC REGRET?

"It's got to be being in a touring band. Currently, we're in Japan, and the time-zone difference is too mad to even really communicate on a day-to-day basis. One time where that really stood out was where my girlfriend had the carbon monoxide alarm going off and I just wasn't there to help. I had all these texts and missed calls, and I got that guilt where I only called back after it had been resolved. She was like, 'Oh, I needed you, but now I don't...'"

WHAT'S BEEN YOUR HARSHEST-EVER BREAK-UP?

"I got dumped a couple of days after my birthday once. It was also a couple of days after I lost my virginity. And it happened over the telephone, which is never really the ideal way for these things to happen. It was just like, 'Well, shit. This is the harshest thing to ever happen to me!' I wept substantially, but eventually my friends pulled me through. That one was a toughie."

Did she give you your birthday presents first, at least?

LOVESTYLES OF THE RICH AND FAMOUS...

WHAT'S BEEN THE MOST GLAM PLACE YOU'VE EVER BEEN ON A DATE?

"It was a few years ago on Valentine's Day when a friend surprised my girlfriend and I with a day trip to Paris. We went on the Eurostar and it was just incredible to have the entire day to explore and do whatever we felt like. We didn't go up the Eiffel Tower, but I remember ice-skating in this old square and thinking it was great!"

WHAT'S YOUR GREATEST INDULGENCE FOR LOOKING GOOD?

"It would have to be my soaps. I bring enough Lush stuff to stock a small store on tour. I'm vain in a lot of ways, but that's the one that springs to mind. I started shopping there shortly after I went vegetarian due to their stance on animal testing, and ended up working there for over a year. I used to get a 50 per cent discount. I miss that!"

Really? Soap on tour? We're sorry – not sorry – Patty, but NO!

ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

WOULD YOU RATHER BE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL MAN IN THE WORLD WITH A CRAP PERSONALITY, OR UGLY BUT BLESSED WITH ENDLESS WIT?

"The thing about having endless wit is that it might never be rewarding in a career capacity. Even if you've got a terrible personality, you could pull off a pretty nice job. We've seen time and again that even the shittiest personalities can be wildly successful. And people who have terrible personalities tend not to realise they do. Ignorance is bliss!"

YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ONE OF YOUR BANDMATE'S PARTNERS. HOW DO YOU HANDLE THE SITUATION?

"The first thing to do in a situation like that is JUST DON'T DO THAT! But if you did find yourself in that situation, you'd have to try to get over it with the utmost secrecy. If you couldn't, it would just be a case of being honest, getting it out there in the open and stressing that you'd never act upon it. You absolutely couldn't act upon it! I really can't see us going full Fleetwood Mac any time soon..."

Funny, they told us they're planning to 'do an As It Is'

SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

IS IT TRUE THAT LOVE NEVER DIES?

"I think that that's the real definition of true love. If you don't feel that, then it wasn't really true. Do I feel that it can even transcend death? I definitely think so – if you find someone that special, moving on could be impossible. No-one, comparatively, can fill their shoes. That's tragic but, at the same time, the best thing about love. It's a blessing and a curse!"

So you're saying zombies have feelings, too?

"I GOT DUMPED TWO DAYS AFTER MY BIRTHDAY..."

PATTY WALTERS

THE VERDICT

YOUR HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE, BUT COME ON, MATE, NO ROCKSTAR NEEDS THAT MUCH SOAP

SCORE 72%

THE LEADERBOARD

1	**AL JOURGENSEN** MINISTRY	100%
2	**ALICE COOPER**	99%
3	**BEN BRUCE** ASKING ALEXANDRIA	98%
4	**AWSTEN KNIGHT** WATERPARKS	96%
5	**AHREN STRINGER** THE AMITY AFFLICTION	95%
6	**GREG GRAFFIN** BAD RELIGION	94%
7	**GRIFFIN DICKINSON** SHVPES	93%
8	**GENE SIMMONS** KISS	93%
9	**JOEL O'KEEFFE** AIRBOURNE	93%
10	**DAVEY HAVOK** AFI	92%
11	**FRANK CARTER** FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES	92%
12	**TUOMAS HOLOPAINEN** NIGHTWISH	70%
13	**CHRIS ROBERTSON** BLACK STONE CHERRY	52%
14	**EDDY BREWERTON** MOOSE BLOOD	31%

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THE FIREBALL STAGE

Bowling for Soup

Less Than Jake

Reel Big Fish

Goldfinger

Mad Caddies

???

???

???

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